

Government is defeated on first devolution Bill clause

The Government was defeated by 15 votes on the first clause of the Scottish devolution Bill last night. Its Liberal supporters in the Commons, as well as the Scottish and Welsh nationalists and some left-wing Labour MPs, voted against the clause, which asserted the unity of the United Kingdom, because "it made no statutory difference to the Bill".

Liberals vote against 'unity' assertion

By Fred Emery

Political Editor

The Government was stunned by a defeat last night in the Commons at the very outset of the committee stage of the Scotland Devolution Bill. The Bill's first clause, asserting that its provisions "do not affect the unity of the United Kingdom", was lost by 199 votes to 184.

The defeat was caused by Liberals and Scottish Welsh nationalists voting against. The Liberals held clause one to be irrelevant and yet wanted their vote to be seen as a shot across the Government's bows, showing that they should not be taken for granted. Further confusion in Labour voting, with a warning from some members of the left-wing Tribune Group that they would vote in both lobbies to emphasize their dissent with the Government's imposition of a whip later this week on the European Assembly Elections Bill.

Mr Tam Dalyell (Labour, West Lothian) voted with the Conservatives on their amendment: Mr William Latham (City of Westminster, Labour), voted in both lobbies. He joined on the vote on the clause by Mr Tom Litterick (Birmingham, Selby Oak).

That tended to confirm the defeat was no accident. There was a two-line whip on the clause, and as it approached, the Government whips, took vain emergency action to locate their malingers.

The Conservative Front Bench promptly demanded that the Government should "draw stumps", apparently meaning only an adjournment for reconsideration. But when opposition backbenchers demanded that the Bill should be abandoned, Mr Foot, leader of the House, insisted that it would go on, amputated of its opening clause.

Parliamentary report, page 16

Mr Foot, who was not in the Chamber when the tellers returned with the surprise result, admitted that the defeat was a setback. But he insisted that the House should "cool down", and added: "It is not the end of the world; it is certainly not the end of the Bill."

Mr Steel, the Liberal leader, maintained that the loss of the clause was of no great moment. He said both sides had agreed in the debate that the clause made no "statutory" difference.

But Mr Julian Amery, Conservative MP for Brighton, Pavilion, countered that since the lost clause had held that the Scotland Bill did not affect the unity of the United Kingdom, the vote meant that the House felt that the unity was thereby affected and wanted nothing of it. Citing Mr Foot's Cromwellian erudition Mr Amery urged: "Take away this bauble."

The defeat was a reminder of the Government's debacle last February with the combined Scottish and Welsh devolution Bill. However, this time the Government was determined to put a bold face on what was almost being deemed an oversight in government circles. To that extent the defeat does not undermine the progress of devolution but it is bound to make future voting unpredictable and take away some of the Government's political self-assurance. It is, after all, a majority government.

The defeated preliminary clause read: "The following provisions of this Act make changes in the Government of Scotland as part of the United Kingdom. They do not affect the unity of the United Kingdom or the sovereignty of Parliament to make laws for the United Kingdom or any part of it."

Parliamentary report, page 16

Little change in jobless total despite forecast rise

By Our Economics Staff

There was practically no change in the level of adult unemployment in Great Britain in the month to mid-November. After seasonal adjustment and exclusion of school-leavers, the number of jobless dropped by 600 to 1,376,500.

The proportion out of work on this measure remained unchanged at 6 per cent of the work force.

The number of unfilled job vacancies for adults rose very slightly from the October level to 153,600 after seasonal adjustment. Since September this measure of the demand for labour has increased by 10,700.

A drop of 24,023 in the number of school-leavers who are still looking for jobs coupled with a seasonal rise in adults out of work brought the total number on the register down by 18,620 to 1,369,384.

When Northern Ireland is included the United Kingdom total for November stands at 1,413,642. This is the first time since June that the total on the register has fallen below 1.5 million.

An apparent improvement in the labour market in the last two months is indicated by the vacancy figures and by the adjusted unemployment totals. Last month there was a drop of 11,600 in adult jobless in Great Britain, after seasonal correction. The proportion out of work has remained steady at 6 per cent for three months.

Officials are so far refusing

Continued on page 29, col 4



Madame Tussaud at the age of 84, from an 1845 painting by Paul Fischer.

Tussaud's rejects £9.5m offer

By Bryan Appleyard

Financial Staff

Madame Tussaud's rejected a £9.5m offer from S. Pearson and Son, the newspaper and banking conglomerate, last night.

Mr Michael Herbert, chief executive of Tussaud's, the wax-works group, said that a cash offer of 45p a share was "totally inadequate", adding that it had come as a surprise.

The idea of an offer arose from an approach by Tussaud's to Pearson's with a view to buying Chessington Zoo, Pearson's main entertainment interest, which drew 835,000 visitors last year.

Mr Michael Hare, a director of Pearson and chairman of the zoo, said the board saw the logic of the move but preferred to expand companies rather than sell them.

His company's idea is that Tussaud's would be merged with Chessington to form a leisure division within Pearson and the Tussaud management would remain.

He said: "They have special skills on the non-animal side. At Chessington we have improved the animal side a great deal. The entertainment side could be sensibly taken in hand and developed and they are good people to do that."

Mr Herbert, however, said he could see no commercial logic in the move. Tussaud's had been completing the deal for taking over Chessington by the end of the year and had planned to expand entertainment.

Tussaud's has been having a good year. Pre-tax profits in the first six months were 70 per cent up, at £549,000, and last year's record total of two million visitors to the London wax-works has been exceeded.

Tussaud's board is meeting this morning to discuss its official response to the offer. Letters will then be sent to the 4,000 shareholders. About a quarter of the equity is held by financial institutions.

Vance list of 7,500 missing Argentines

Mr Vance, the United States Secretary of State, who left Argentina for Brazil yesterday, is reported to have given the Argentine Government a list of 7,500 people said to have disappeared in Argentina or been arrested without legal process for political reasons. United States officials said that Mr Vance had found that the Argentine Government's attitude to human rights problems had improved. An American official said: "There are just as many people disappearing as ever, but the Government's official attitude in dealing with us makes it easier to talk." A joint communiqué after the visit also mentioned satisfaction that Britain and Argentina were negotiating about the Falklands.

School buildings 'need £1,500m'

The establishment of national priorities for school building is suggested in a Government report that estimates it will cost over £1,500m to bring the 28,000 schools in England and Wales up to acceptable modern standards. In a foreword, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State, talks in terms of meeting "to concentrate a greater part of our resources for a number of years".

Motorway food inquiry

An independent inquiry has been set up by the Government to investigate standards of food and other facilities in motorway service areas. Its chairman is Mr Peter Prior, chairman of the Bulmer cider group.

Avoiding heart attacks

A high calorie intake with high energy expenditure, high intake of cereal fibre and no guarantee to meet little chance of a heart attack, according to the London School of Hygiene.

Land-use policy is criticized

A Civic Trust report criticizing land-use policies in Britain calls for legislation to make demolition without immediate replacement a crime, rather than the rule.

Lending right to be considered

The Arts Council is to consider a non-statutory scheme of public lending right which it could administer. Miss Bridget Brophy, the authors' leader, said: "The only doubt is whether the libraries would cooperate."

The otter may be protected

The fate of the otter, which the Government wants to add to the list of protected species, will be debated by a Commons committee today. The House is thought likely to approve a protection order.

Jordan ready to join Sadat peace camp

From Edward Mortimer

Cairo, Nov 22

President Nimeiry of Sudan paid a flying visit to Cairo today to give his personal congratulations to President Sadat on his visit to Israel, which he described as "a great victory in terms of world strategy".

Mr Sadat thanked him for his "initiative in coming to Cairo to express your country's support". Some observers doubted, however, whether the initiative was entirely spontaneous. Mr Nimeiry owes a debt of gratitude to Mr Sadat for helping him defeat an attempted coup in Sudan last year; and Mr Sadat is anxious to demonstrate whatever support he can find in the Arab world to counter the fierce campaign now being waged against him by Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Together they are trying to form an anti-Sadat front with Libya, Iraq, Algeria and South Yemen.

The most encouraging development so far for President Sadat is the support expressed by Jordan, which in recent years has been very close to Syria and in 1975 joined in the Syrian campaign against the second Sinal agreement. The Jordanian view is not yet official, since King Hussein himself has yet to make a statement.

Threat to EEC regional fund

France has threatened to block the renewal next year of the EEC's regional fund, which is used to promote development of the Community's backward areas, unless it receives a larger share of the fund's resources. Britain, Ireland and Italy have insisted that they should retain their present shares.

Schmidt appeal to Poland

A plea for Poles to show understanding of the Bonn Government's desire for German unity was made in Warsaw by Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. But he admitted that people in Poland might fear the possibility of "state unity of the Germans in free self-determination".

'Public cash' for voluntary bodies

The report of the Wolfenden committee of inquiry into voluntary welfare organizations argues that more public money should be channelled into such bodies because demand for their services shows no sign of diminishing.

Youth unemployment: The Government should take bold selective action on youth unemployment, the pressure group Youthaid says.

Fewer betting offices: The number of betting offices, licences and bookmakers' permits in force in Britain continues to fall.

Australia: A new party led by Mr Don Chisholm, a former minister, poses a threat to Mr Fraser with less than three weeks to go to the election.

The Changing City: A Special Report on the future of London's financial Square Mile.

Today's Uefa Cup matches: Racing: Michael Seely on Bird's Nest's plans; Sports Council reports boom in minor sports.

Business News, pages 28-33

Stock markets: Equities lost ground for the seventh day running and the FT index closed 3.5 down at 471.8.

Financial Editor: Interest rates in the melting pot; Johnson Firsh Brown: paper for the short term; Comet: volatile demand for consumer durables.

Business features: Frank Vogel, in the last of three articles on the pressure for change in the British and United States securities markets, looks at the American scene; Peter Norman on why the West German unions are likely to reject the economic proposals of the five wise men.

Business Diary: One of Britain's biggest companies once thought of moving abroad.

Home News 2, 4, 6

Crossword 26

Sale Room 21

Vance list of 7,500 missing Argentines

Mr Vance, the United States Secretary of State, who left Argentina for Brazil yesterday, is reported to have given the Argentine Government a list of 7,500 people said to have disappeared in Argentina or been arrested without legal process for political reasons. United States officials said that Mr Vance had found that the Argentine Government's attitude to human rights problems had improved. An American official said: "There are just as many people disappearing as ever, but the Government's official attitude in dealing with us makes it easier to talk." A joint communiqué after the visit also mentioned satisfaction that Britain and Argentina were negotiating about the Falklands.

School buildings 'need £1,500m'

The establishment of national priorities for school building is suggested in a Government report that estimates it will cost over £1,500m to bring the 28,000 schools in England and Wales up to acceptable modern standards. In a foreword, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State, talks in terms of meeting "to concentrate a greater part of our resources for a number of years".

Motorway food inquiry

An independent inquiry has been set up by the Government to investigate standards of food and other facilities in motorway service areas. Its chairman is Mr Peter Prior, chairman of the Bulmer cider group.

Avoiding heart attacks

A high calorie intake with high energy expenditure, high intake of cereal fibre and no guarantee to meet little chance of a heart attack, according to the London School of Hygiene.

Land-use policy is criticized

A Civic Trust report criticizing land-use policies in Britain calls for legislation to make demolition without immediate replacement a crime, rather than the rule.

Lending right to be considered

The Arts Council is to consider a non-statutory scheme of public lending right which it could administer. Miss Bridget Brophy, the authors' leader, said: "The only doubt is whether the libraries would cooperate."

The otter may be protected

The fate of the otter, which the Government wants to add to the list of protected species, will be debated by a Commons committee today. The House is thought likely to approve a protection order.

Jordan ready to join Sadat peace camp

President Nimeiry of Sudan paid a flying visit to Cairo today to give his personal congratulations to President Sadat on his visit to Israel, which he described as "a great victory in terms of world strategy".

Mr Sadat thanked him for his "initiative in coming to Cairo to express your country's support". Some observers doubted, however, whether the initiative was entirely spontaneous. Mr Nimeiry owes a debt of gratitude to Mr Sadat for helping him defeat an attempted coup in Sudan last year; and Mr Sadat is anxious to demonstrate whatever support he can find in the Arab world to counter the fierce campaign now being waged against him by Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Together they are trying to form an anti-Sadat front with Libya, Iraq, Algeria and South Yemen.

The most encouraging development so far for President Sadat is the support expressed by Jordan, which in recent years has been very close to Syria and in 1975 joined in the Syrian campaign against the second Sinal agreement. The Jordanian view is not yet official, since King Hussein himself has yet to make a statement.

Threat to EEC regional fund

France has threatened to block the renewal next year of the EEC's regional fund, which is used to promote development of the Community's backward areas, unless it receives a larger share of the fund's resources. Britain, Ireland and Italy have insisted that they should retain their present shares.

Schmidt appeal to Poland

A plea for Poles to show understanding of the Bonn Government's desire for German unity was made in Warsaw by Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. But he admitted that people in Poland might fear the possibility of "state unity of the Germans in free self-determination".

Jordan ready to join Sadat peace camp

From Edward Mortimer

Cairo, Nov 22

President Nimeiry of Sudan paid a flying visit to Cairo today to give his personal congratulations to President Sadat on his visit to Israel, which he described as "a great victory in terms of world strategy".

Mr Sadat thanked him for his "initiative in coming to Cairo to express your country's support". Some observers doubted, however, whether the initiative was entirely spontaneous. Mr Nimeiry owes a debt of gratitude to Mr Sadat for helping him defeat an attempted coup in Sudan last year; and Mr Sadat is anxious to demonstrate whatever support he can find in the Arab world to counter the fierce campaign now being waged against him by Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Together they are trying to form an anti-Sadat front with Libya, Iraq, Algeria and South Yemen.

The most encouraging development so far for President Sadat is the support expressed by Jordan, which in recent years has been very close to Syria and in 1975 joined in the Syrian campaign against the second Sinal agreement. The Jordanian view is not yet official, since King Hussein himself has yet to make a statement.

Threat to EEC regional fund

France has threatened to block the renewal next year of the EEC's regional fund, which is used to promote development of the Community's backward areas, unless it receives a larger share of the fund's resources. Britain, Ireland and Italy have insisted that they should retain their present shares.

Schmidt appeal to Poland

A plea for Poles to show understanding of the Bonn Government's desire for German unity was made in Warsaw by Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. But he admitted that people in Poland might fear the possibility of "state unity of the Germans in free self-determination".

'Public cash' for voluntary bodies

The report of the Wolfenden committee of inquiry into voluntary welfare organizations argues that more public money should be channelled into such bodies because demand for their services shows no sign of diminishing.

Youth unemployment: The Government should take bold selective action on youth unemployment, the pressure group Youthaid says.

Fewer betting offices: The number of betting offices, licences and bookmakers' permits in force in Britain continues to fall.

Australia: A new party led by Mr Don Chisholm, a former minister, poses a threat to Mr Fraser with less than three weeks to go to the election.

The Changing City: A Special Report on the future of London's financial Square Mile.

Today's Uefa Cup matches: Racing: Michael Seely on Bird's Nest's plans; Sports Council reports boom in minor sports.

Business News, pages 28-33

Stock markets: Equities lost ground for the seventh day running and the FT index closed 3.5 down at 471.8.

Financial Editor: Interest rates in the melting pot; Johnson Firsh Brown: paper for the short term; Comet: volatile demand for consumer durables.

Business features: Frank Vogel, in the last of three articles on the pressure for change in the British and United States securities markets, looks at the American scene; Peter Norman on why the West German unions are likely to reject the economic proposals of the five wise men.

Business Diary: One of Britain's biggest companies once thought of moving abroad.

Home News 2, 4, 6

Crossword 26

Sale Room 21

Flying columns of troops will help to fight the worst fires

Flying columns of troops will help to fight big fires in high-risk areas during the firemen's pay strike, the Ministry of Defence said yesterday.

The columns will total a thousand troops and the first group is expected to be deployed in West Yorkshire. They form part of the 4,000 extra men allocated to fire-fighting on Monday. They will be equipped with 74 of the 100 extra "Green Goddess" fire appliances made available.

Striking firemen intensified their pressure on part-time and fire officers yesterday in an attempt to stop them helping the Servicemen substitute fire-fighters.

As the strike went into its sixth day, over the Fire Brigades Union's demand for a 20 per cent pay rise, the men threatened not to work with members of the National Association of Fire Officers after a settlement unless they joined the strike immediately.

A total of 22 people have died in fires in England and Wales since the strike began. The Home Office said yesterday that the number was about the same as for any other calendar November period.

Our Labour Editor writes from Blackpool: The Prime Minister

will have to run the gauntlet of striking firemen when he takes the Cabinet's message of pay restraint to the electricians' conference at Blackpool today.

Firemen are gathering to force home publicly their view that the Government should shift from its hard-line insistence that the overall limit of 10 per cent on earnings cannot be breached.

Hostile scenes are expected outside the conference hotel where delegates from the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union are discussing pay policy.

Mr Callaghan will stick firmly to the Government's pay policy when he talks to the 600 electricians' delegates. However, there are moves to commit the Government to a 10 per cent increase in the firemen's union to support the firemen.

Mr Joseph Scullion, a delegate from Teesside, yesterday proposed an emergency resolution calling on the union to give the firemen an interest-free loan of £200,000 and a gift of £10,000.

Our Parliamentary Correspondent writes: Mrs Thatcher took another step towards establishing herself as the firemen's champion yesterday when she told Mr Callaghan, in effect, that there should be a settlement outside the limit imposed by the pay guidelines.

In contrast to the more cautious attitude to the strike adopted by Mr Whitelaw, the Tory home affairs spokesman, Mrs Thatcher argued in the Commons that 10 per cent should be taken as an average, not a maximum for settlements.

The Prime Minister rejoined that a tenth was the increase in national earnings that would enable single figures for most of next year.

"So, 10 per cent is not the maximum figure, and therefore the firemen would be free to negotiate with the national joint council within cash limits."

Our Political Correspondent writes: On behalf of 140 Labour backbenchers, Mr Edward Fletcher, MP for Darlington and chairman of the Tribune Group, handed £404 to Mr Dick Foggie, assistant general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, last night the union's strike fund. The MPs asked for some of the money to be used to relieve hardship among firemen's families.

Hopes grow for £1,800m tax cuts in spring

By Caroline Atkinson

Mr Healey will probably be able to make tax cuts of up to £1,800m in the spring of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) test now in London agrees to leave unchanged the estimate made last year of the Government's borrowing needs in 1978-79.

The new figure, £2,000m higher than earlier estimates, is based on Treasury forecasts which have not been made public.

It is believed that government economists will tell the IMF team that if earnings rise by 15 per cent this year, as seems increasingly likely, then the amount of money the public sector will need to borrow (the public sector borrowing requirement or PSBR) will fall to £5,800m, for both this financial year and next.

The present official PSBR figure for the year beginning next April is £7,000m; but this was based on the assumption

that the rise in earnings would be held to 10 per cent. As earnings rise, so the tax yield increases and the need to borrow diminishes. This is where the extra £2,000m available to the Chancellor for tax concessions would come from.

Mr Healey has frequently given warning that, if earnings grow too fast, he will not give away so much in his Budget. But a general level of wage settlements at around 10 per cent would probably lead to an overall rise in earnings of roughly 15 per cent, and ministers are believed to regard this as tolerable.

If basic rates began rising at 15 per cent, however, the earnings outcome would be regarded as insupportably high. The possibility that this might happen is causing concern, and explains in part why the Government is taking what seems to be an intransigent line where settlements with

firemen and other workers are concerned.

The Government has decided to ask the visiting Fund team to delay final decisions on economic targets for 1978-79 until the IMF's next look at the books in May. This is partly because of the present uncertainty about pay and inflation prospects.

Treasury representatives will be pressing the IMF for greater leeway on the monetary side than is implied in the £6,000m estimate for Domestic Credit Expansion (DCE) in 1978-79 which was set out in last year's Letter of Intent. (DCE is the increase in the amount of money created within the United Kingdom, excluding inflows or outflows generated by the Balance of Payments.)

Hopes grow for £1,800m tax cuts in spring

By Caroline Atkinson

Mr Healey will probably be able to make tax cuts of up to £1,800m in the spring of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) test now in London agrees to leave unchanged the estimate made last year of the Government's borrowing needs in 1978-79.

The new figure, £2,000m higher than earlier estimates, is based on Treasury forecasts which have not been made public.

It is believed that government economists will tell the IMF team that if earnings rise by 15 per cent this year, as seems increasingly likely, then the amount of money the public sector will need to borrow (the public sector borrowing requirement or PSBR) will fall to £5,800m, for both this financial year and next.

The present official PSBR figure for the year beginning next April is £7,000m; but this was based on the assumption

that the rise in earnings would be held to 10 per cent. As earnings rise, so the tax yield increases and the need to borrow diminishes. This is where the extra £2,000m available to the Chancellor for tax concessions would come from.

Mr Healey has frequently given warning that, if earnings grow too fast, he will not give away so much in his Budget. But a general level of wage settlements at around 10 per cent would probably lead to an overall rise in earnings of roughly 15 per cent, and ministers are believed to regard this as tolerable.

If basic rates began rising at 15 per cent, however, the earnings outcome would be regarded as insupportably high. The possibility that this might happen is causing concern, and explains in part why the Government is taking what seems to be an intransigent line where settlements with

firemen and other workers are concerned.

The Government has decided to ask the visiting Fund team to delay final decisions on economic targets for 1978-79 until the IMF's next look at the books in May. This is partly because of the present uncertainty about pay and inflation prospects.

Treasury representatives will be pressing the IMF for greater leeway on the monetary side than is implied in the £6,000m estimate for Domestic Credit Expansion (DCE) in 1978-79 which was set out in last year's Letter of Intent. (DCE is the increase in the amount of money created within the United Kingdom, excluding inflows or outflows generated by the Balance of Payments.)

Hopes grow for £1,800m tax cuts in spring

By Caroline Atkinson

Mr

HOME NEWS

Pay slips emphasize plight of family men in fire service

By Craig Seton

"I wanted to put out fires and protect people", Mr Geoffrey Webb said yesterday, explaining why he had left a "boring" apprenticeship as a motor mechanic. He could manage on his take-home pay of £185 a month but he was on strike with the rest of Britain's firemen to support the men with families who could no longer afford to pay their bills.

Sitting at the side of a brazier outside the Dowgate fire station, in the City of London, Mr Webb, who is 20, says he joined the service five months ago and had three months' training before starting to fight fires.

With Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, hanging in effigy from a wall near by, Mr Webb and his colleagues produced their pay slips to show why they feel they have an indisputable case for a rise of well over the 10 per cent envisaged in the Government's pay guidelines.

Mr Webb said: "I do not know how the married blokes live, but unless we get more money now I know I shall be in the same position in a few years. I am thinking about getting engaged, but how could I manage? I could never get a mortgage."

Mr Webb's pay slip showed that his basic wage for October was £222, only £44 short of the basic rate for a colleague who has been in the service for 11 years. It is that prospect that worries young firemen and recruits who want to make fire-fighting a career.

His additional "allowances" of £51.15 are the London weighting of £415 a year plus travelling expenses for 40 miles each way a day. A further £13.10 pay supplement represents the settlements under phases one and two of the Government's pay policy, a policy that firemen say has destroyed their standard of living in two or three years.

That total payment of £286 a month is immediately reduced by £100, mainly £64.25 tax, £16.46 national insurance and £18.31 superannuation.

Mr Webb and his colleagues concede that the allowances figure may cloud the picture and point out the only London fireman benefit. One man, it was said, received £141 in allowances, more than half his basic salary, and that might give the impression, they feared, that firemen had no claim for special treatment.

The only reason for that man's large allowance was the distance

he travelled from Brightingsea, in Essex, and it was consumed in fares. Many men, they said, had to live well outside London to be able to afford to buy houses, but then they faced enormous travelling costs.

Mr Webb said: "I do not want to leave the job, but I want a living wage. I live with my parents, so it is now so bad, but I could earn more in an unskilled job."

Station Officer James Kennedy, who has been in the service for 18 years and is married, with two children, entertained the men yesterday by playing his bagpipes. "Not a joke", he was quick to say. He played the bagpipes in his spare time to earn extra money, money he could not afford to be without.

Last month his net pay was £245.85. Was that not ridiculous, he asked, considering his experience and expertise? He is 39 now, in the service until he retires, and determined to stay on strike as long as it takes to get a "living wage".

Mr Kennedy's basic wage is £341 a month, working a 48-hour week and his gross pay, including allowances, pay supplement and a small amount of overtime, which is normally not done, was £417.30 in October.

His deductions were £171.45, including £32.15 rent for his fire service accommodation at Enfield, North London. A home of his own, with a mortgage would be out of the question, he said. Tax took £85, national insurance £23.99 and superannuation £28.22.

Mr Michael Gavston, a fireman in his ninth year, also takes home between £240 and £250 a month. Married with two children, he lives in a council house, because his three attempts to get a mortgage all failed. "The GLC offered me £7,000 mortgage on my salary. What will I buy in London?", he asked.

"People must realize that the London weighting and the travelling allowances are taxed. That is why we are concerned only with our basic pay. As a fireman I am now on top pay, although after 15 years I shall get an extra 3p an hour more. Is that what I have to look forward to?"

The firemen realize that the Government has dug in for a long strike. But they insisted yesterday, the tenth day of the strike, that they could continue for 20 or 30 or even 40 days before they would contemplate a settlement on the Government's terms.

Union chiefs scorn statement by employers' chairman that extremists have taken control of the dispute

Intimidation of non-strikers alleged

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Mr Martin Brannan, chairman of the employers' side of the national joint council for the fire service, said yesterday that he had been asked to take action over the "intimidation" of firemen not on strike.

He said: "I have had a number of reports of the use of flying pickets, and one member of one council in the South told me that the 'heavy gang' had arrived in his area."

Mr Brannan, a Conservative member of Cumbria County Council, said three letters from prominent members or officials of councils had asked him to seek assurances from the Fire Brigades Union that non-strikers would not be "victimized" when the dispute was over.

He said three stations run by part-time (retained) firemen had closed because they had been warned by strikers that they, or their equipment, would be damaged after the dispute was over. Mr Brannan declined to name the stations.

He was speaking the day after a BBC radio interview in which he said evidence had been given to him "that the control of the strike has passed from the (union) executive into the hands of International Socialists and members of the Broad Left".

Mr Brannan yesterday stood

by that allegation, condemned by a senior official of the union as "absolute utter nonsense" and added that he believed that threats of victimization were also the work of extremists.

He added: "This is an assumption and not based on hard factual evidence. I have not had the time to dig fully into it."

Mr Brannan said "extremists" had been putting "overt and covert" pressure on strikers. He pointed out that the paper of a militant group called "Rank and File" within Socialist Workers' Party offices in Seven Sisters Road, London.

He added: "The paper is very radical in tone and it has exacerbated the strike. In this country we tend to ignore these things. The average man in the street does not know what is behind it."

Mr Terence Parry, the union's general secretary, condemned Mr Brannan's statement on Monday. He pointed out that the strike decision had been taken by a majority of nearly two to one at a national delegate conference at which every member was an accredited representative of the union.

Last night Mr Daniel Riddell, one of the union's five national officers, said: "Mr Brannan has been very helpful to us in the past and I am

surprised that he should say something which is absolute utter nonsense."

Pickets have been going to other areas where there is a request to do so from a brigade union official, but the people involved are all firemen. Some of our people have been getting requests from students and groups such as the SWP and the Workers' Revolutionary Party to let the socialist in picketing, and the reaction of our blocks has been 'bugger off'."

Mr Riddell said there had been bitterness among some strikers against retained firemen who were working normally, and it was possible that some had been told that the striking firemen would not work with them again when the dispute was over. "This has not been discussed by the executive."

Mr Brannan's company, Brannan Thermochem, was faced a few years ago with an official strike by members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. The stoppage lasted in 1971 and lasted more than a year. He said yesterday: "That has in no way influenced what I have been saying. I am in no sense anti-union."

Mr Brannan has now retired from the company.

A reply of the national joint council's employers' side emphasized last night that Mr Brannan had made his remarks in a personal capacity.

Belfast fears of booby traps at burning buildings

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

Fears of elaborate trap devices prevented British Army firefighters yesterday from saving two Belfast business premises attacked by the Provisional IRA as part of an increasing campaign to take advantage of the firemen's strike.

The destruction of a furniture store and a car hire business brought to seven the number of commercial premises attacked by the IRA in the 34 hours that ended at 6 o'clock last night.

Over the past six days the Army has encountered three potentially lethal anti-personnel traps close to fire hydrants. The most serious was an 8lb bomb operated by a lifting mechanism attached to a hydrant near the bombed Co-operative store. It hit a hydrant while it was being investigated by a robot.

Even so, men were reluctant to give names. One picket said: "Martin Rees is under the impression we are paid overtime as a matter of course. If we were offered 40 hours at normal pay and eight hours overtime everybody would go back to work tomorrow."

One of the firemen's main complaints is that they get no time-and-a-half or double-time rates for night and Saturday and Sunday working.

Night shifts, they say, attract higher rates of pay everywhere but in the fire service.

A young fireman with two years' service, married and with no children, said: "My gross wage for 48 hours is £53, and with stoppages my take-home pay is £35."

ash donations have been constant and regular, as have supplies of soup, sandwiches, cases of tinned food, bottles of spirits and beer and the replenishment of timber for the braziers that glow day and night like a beacon.

Motorists constantly wave and blow their horns, the petition forms accumulate, names, and offers of hot food and drink increase all the time.

The pickets said: "We have had only one man shout abuse and he nearly fell off his bicycle as he was so drunk."

Two men on the Blue Watch produced recent pay slips as evidence for their cause.

Poverty trap 'cancels out benefit of 10% offer'

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

The Lothian and Borders fire brigade usually answers at least a hundred calls a day. Yesterday its appliances stood idle behind a closed picket line. The men said they had handed their responsibilities on to the Army because they could no longer afford to work.

The Fire Brigades Union, membership of which costs 27p a week, has not the resources to provide strike pay, but from December 1 firemen's dependents will become eligible for help from the council.

"I have been a fireman 20 years, and with all the benefits there will be only £5 a week less going into my home when I am on strike than at work. Some of the men will actually be better off, that is how poor our pay is," Mr Michael Jones, of Edinburgh, said.

More than half the Lothian and Borders brigade have less than five years' service, which means that a man with two

children may take home as little as £39.46 a week.

The 20 pickets outside the central station in Edinburgh have cut off the road to work. One young fireman calculated that Mr Callaghan's 10 per cent offer would leave him no better off.

He was explained, in the poverty trap. He received family income supplement, his children had free school meals and there were rebates on rent and rates. The offer would mean that he would be lifted beyond the zone of poverty and lose £5.60 a week in benefits. His income would rise by 20p a week.

Since the strike began the Edinburgh firemen have collected 26,000 signatures from the public supporting them. The union said yesterday that strict watch was being kept to stop any firemen "moonlighting" (doing another job).

More than half the Lothian and Borders brigade have less than five years' service, which means that a man with two

Public's warmth reassures Blue Watch

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

Amid the affluence of Solihull, the least desirable residence yesterday was the open transverse lean-to of the five members of Blue Watch picket outside the fire station.

But a town usually said to be totally involved in its material welfare has shown a warmth and reassures them.

"From the things that have happened here in the past week they are as good as gold and it has given us a lot of encouragement to know such people are firmly behind us," a picket said.

ash donations have been constant and regular, as have supplies of soup, sandwiches, cases of tinned food, bottles of spirits and beer and the replenishment of timber for the braziers that glow day and night like a beacon.

Motorists constantly wave and blow their horns, the petition forms accumulate, names, and offers of hot food and drink increase all the time.

The pickets said: "We have had only one man shout abuse and he nearly fell off his bicycle as he was so drunk."

Two men on the Blue Watch produced recent pay slips as evidence for their cause.

city and has about an eighth of its population.

SUPPORT HAS ALSO BEEN GENEROUS THERE. The two women who gave £5 in five minutes yesterday were said to be typical examples.

Almost every night the pickets have helped accident victims at a crossroads near by. One early morning also had an amusing moment when work was interrupted by a "Green Goddess" (a goddess) who drew up and the soldiers pulled out with hoses to put out the fireman's roaring bonfire.

The Mossy Road men went to the other end of their Solihull colleagues, but they were concerned about younger firemen, such as one with two children earning £42 a week net.

Station Officer David Anderson said his son, aged 22, was to earn £42 net for a 48-hour week at Leyland, Longbridge, and up to £70 with overtime. After 31 years' fire service, Mr Anderson earns just under £60 a week. Sub-Officer Peter Longdon, aged 52, with 29 years' service, said his fortnightly net wage was £110.

In another and totally dissimilar area in the West Midlands, the pickets sheltering under plastic sheeting at Moseley Road station, in Birmingham, said public support was overwhelming. The station covers an inner area of the

runs to several sheets, containing hundreds of names. Passing cars hoot and drivers raise their horns in support.

One man arrived with a calculating machine and decided that if the firemen achieved their aim of a 30 per cent pay rise they would take home £58.50. He then gave them an amount of money.

The firemen believe they have even more public support than the miners in 1974. Mr David Cole, the union official representing the Barry station, said: "Our mood is hardening, and with it our determination. This strike has not really begun yet."

Mr Donald Cudger, a junior officer has been with the fire service for 23 years and is sometimes responsible for running the station. "For that degree of responsibility in a high-risk area, which includes oil and chemical plants, I take home £47 a week. My daughter will soon start work for more than that amount. It makes me sick to go on strike, but now I am determined to see it through."

By a Staff Reporter

A Government assurance that people with Down's Syndrome, a mental handicap, can qualify for mobility allowance if they are unable or virtually unable to walk was rejected as unsatisfactory yesterday by Mr Peter Walker, Conservative MP for Worcester.

He is campaigning for the allowance to be paid to Robert Edmunds, aged 12, of Worcester, who has Down's Syndrome, and will walk only a few yards. Although it was originally granted, the Department of Health and Social Security has persisted in an appeal to have it stopped.

Bold action on youth unemployment urged

By Our Labour Reporter

Policy divisions have emerged between Youthaid, a privately sponsored pressure group, and the government-backed Manpower Services Commission on how to tackle the acute and growing level of youth unemployment.

An analysis of the question was produced yesterday by Youthaid. It concludes that short-term measures need to be replaced with bold, selective action. That should involve work creation and preservation measures, including the stimulation of labour intensive industries, more training and education and new combinations of work education and training.

Mr Christopher Brooks, an economist and director of Youthaid, said the time had come "for some serious surgery". The challenge should involve the Treasury, the Department of Education and Science, the Department of Employment, and the Home Office.

He added: "The Manpower Services Commission is working on the fringe. We should

like a Cabinet committee to give immediate attention to the problem. The people most in need are not getting help."

Youthaid says in its analysis that measures should be directed to young people most affected by unemployment: the 300,000 who leave school each year without academic qualifications or entry to training.

The Government's new youth unemployment programme, beginning next year, will provide only 134,000 places at one time, the report says, while the total of young people unemployed is likely to be three times that size.

There are 253,000 unemployed school-leavers at July this year. The trend in youth unemployment is up. It is up in good times as well as bad, and it is accelerating faster than the general trend in unemployment.

Its conclusions, Youthaid says, "Education and training must be geared to the opportunity structure for young people and to a realistic assessment of the level at which they will subsequently enter the labour market."

The North gets its own opera

From a Staff Reporter
Leeds

By happy coincidence yesterday the festival of St Cecilia, the patron saint of music, was chosen to announce the formation of a new opera company, English National Opera North, which will be based on the Grand Theatre, Leeds.

An offspring of the English National Opera, it is the first full-time opera company formed in England for more than thirty years. It will cost £1m a year to operate, a third of which, it is hoped, will be recovered from the box office and two thirds from subsidies.

The Arts Council will guarantee £456,000 for the first seven months, operation, to April, 1978, and thereafter, with local authorities in Yorkshire, will guarantee a part of the costs.

Lord Harewood, managing director of English National Opera, said that for some time it had been obvious that the system whereby each year English National Opera split into two and ran two tours simultaneously was neither sensible nor economical. It left the company open to criticism for not fielding a top team on any given night.

The company will open on November 15, next year, with a production of Saint-Saëns's *Saïmon and Delilah*. There will be three more seasons in Leeds before the end of May, 1979, with plans for visits to other centres in Yorkshire and further afield.

The company will have the use of some of its parent company's facilities but in effect it will be independent.

Mr David Lloyd-Jones is to be the music director and the company will have its own conductors, music staff and producers as well as a full operatic orchestra and chorus.

Thieves take half a house

Nottingham police are looking for thieves who have stolen half a house. The first floor of the house, in Unwin Road, had been completed, but the thieves dismantled all five thousand bricks and loaded them, with two thousand concrete blocks, on to a vehicle.

£1,000m call to save energy use

By Our Planning Reporter

Energy conservation needs £1,000m in the next 10 years, Mr Gordon Graham, President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, said in his inaugural address to the institute last night.

Mr Graham, whose audience included Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, said buildings accounted for up to half the primary energy used in Britain.

The second element in a conservation programme, he said, must be to improve and insulate the fabric of 20 million homes alone that were responsible for about 30 per cent of primary energy consumption. The second solution, he said, was to upgrade public buildings, which formed about two thirds of non-domestic stock.

He said the drive to insulate buildings must be as rigorous as the clean air campaign.

Rises in entrance fees to many ancient monuments

The admission charge to the Tower of London, which draws 2,500,000 visitors a year, is to be almost doubled to £1.50 in the high season. The Department of the Environment announced yesterday that the Tower of London, the high season charge will rise from 50p to £1.

The rises, the first since January, 1976, are to meet the increased cost of upkeep. Admission charges to many other ancient monuments will rise by up to 20p.

At the Tower a three-tier pricing system will be introduced on February 27 to encourage a more even spread of visitors throughout the year. The new charges will be £1.50 (children and pensioners 50p) in July and August; £1 (children and pensioners 50p) from March to June, and 50p from September to November; and 20p (children and pensioners 10p) from December to February. Admission will still be free at more than 150 monuments.

Season ticket prices will be reduced to all monuments in the department's care will go up to £2. But tickets issued before December 31 will be at the present rate of £2.

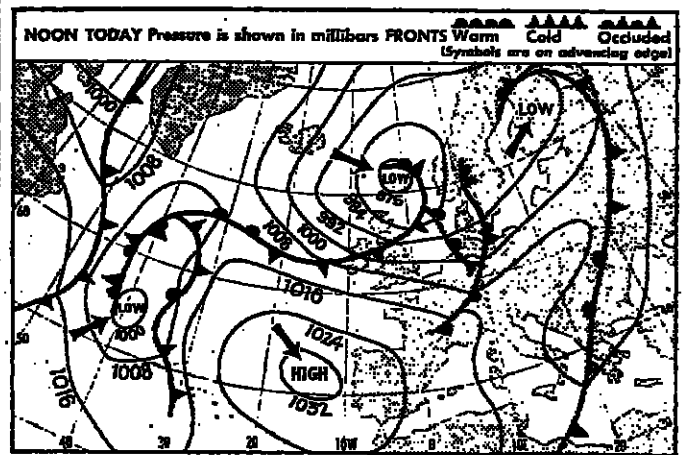
Prize for road doctor

The 1977 Jim Clark Foundation Award for services to motoring in Scotland has been won by Dr Hugh M. Sinclair, of Moffat, Dumfries and Galloway, for his emergency medical service work.

Lifeboat awards

Mr Anthony Warnock and Mr Trevor England, of Padstow, Cornwall, have been awarded the silver medal of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution for braving 20ft waves to rescue two people from a yacht.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 7.32 am
Sun sets: 4.2 pm
Moon rises: 4.53 am
Moon sets: 3.14 pm

Full moon: November 25

Lighting up: 4.52 pm to 7.3 am

High water: London Bridge, 12.14 pm, 6.5m (22.7ft). Avonmouth, 5.32 am, 12.1m (39.8ft); 5.33 pm, 12.5m (41.0ft). Dover, 8.21 am, 6.2m (20.3ft); 5.53 pm, 6.2m (20.4ft). Hull, 4.10 am, 6.7m (22.0ft); 4.42 pm, 6.9m (22.6ft). Liverpool, 9.40 am, 8.5m (28.3ft); 5.55 pm, 8.5m (28.3ft).

Rather cloudy, dry at first, outbreaks of rain; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 7° or 8°C (45° or 46°F).

N Wales, NW, NE, SE, SW, Lake District, Isle of Man: Rain spreading S, clearer with showers later; wind W, strong, max temp 7°C (45°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray, Fife: Rain at first, becoming brighter; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

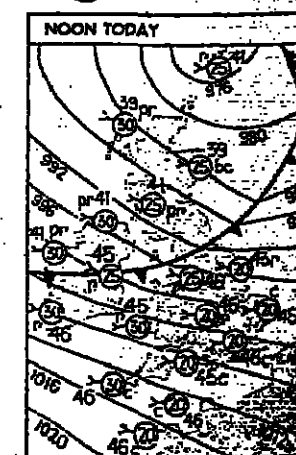
SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Rain at first, becoming brighter with showers; wind W strong or gale; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Central Highlands, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Becoming brighter, with showers, wintry on high ground; wind NW strong or gale; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly rather cold, sunny intervals, showers, particularly in N and E.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; a, steel.

Algeria	Amsterdam	Antwerp	Athens	Batavia	Bombay	Buenos Aires	Calcutta	Canton	Cebu	Colon	Hankow	Hong Kong	Kobe	London	Lyons	Manila	Panama	Peking	Rangoon	San Francisco	Singapore	Sourabaya	Tientsin	Yokohama
10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5



Today

Sun rises: 7.32 am
Sun sets: 4.2 pm
Moon rises: 4.53 am
Moon sets: 3.14 pm

Full moon: November 25

Lighting up: 4.52 pm to 7.3 am

High water: London Bridge, 12.14 pm, 6.5m (22.7ft). Avonmouth, 5.32 am, 12.1m (39.8ft); 5.33 pm, 12.5m (41.0ft). Dover, 8.21 am, 6.2m (20.3ft); 5.53 pm, 6.2m (20.4ft). Hull, 4.10 am, 6.7m (22.0ft); 4.42 pm, 6.9m (22.6ft). Liverpool, 9.40 am, 8.5m (28.3ft); 5.55 pm, 8.5m (28.3ft).

Rather cloudy, dry at first, outbreaks of rain; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 7° or 8°C (45° or 46°F).

N Wales, NW, NE, SE, SW, Lake District, Isle of Man: Rain spreading S, clearer with showers later; wind W, strong, max temp 7°C (45°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray, Fife: Rain at first, becoming brighter; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

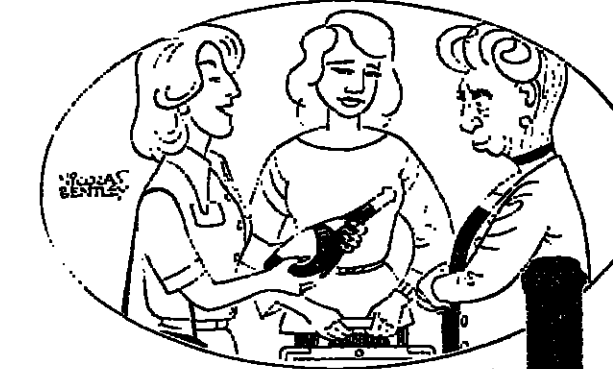
SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Rain at first, becoming brighter with showers; wind W strong or gale; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Central Highlands, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Becoming brighter, with showers, wintry on high ground; wind NW strong or gale; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly rather cold, sunny intervals, showers, particularly in N and E.

Algeria	Amsterdam	Antwerp	Athens	Batavia	Bombay	Buenos Aires	Calcutta	Canton	Cebu	Colon	Hankow	Hong Kong	Kobe	London	Lyons	Manila	Panama	Peking	Rangoon	San Francisco	Singapore	Sourabaya	Tientsin	Yokohama
10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5

Algeria	Amsterdam	Antwerp	Athens	Batavia	Bombay	Buenos Aires	Calcutta	Canton	Cebu	Colon	Hankow	Hong Kong	Kobe	London	Lyons	Manila	Panama	Peking	Rangoon	San Francisco	Singapore	Sourabaya	Tientsin	Yokohama
10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5



An inscible auntie in Nantes
Loved wine and was très élégante
So sensible nieces
Within their valises
Took Piat, not plumes, to their tante.

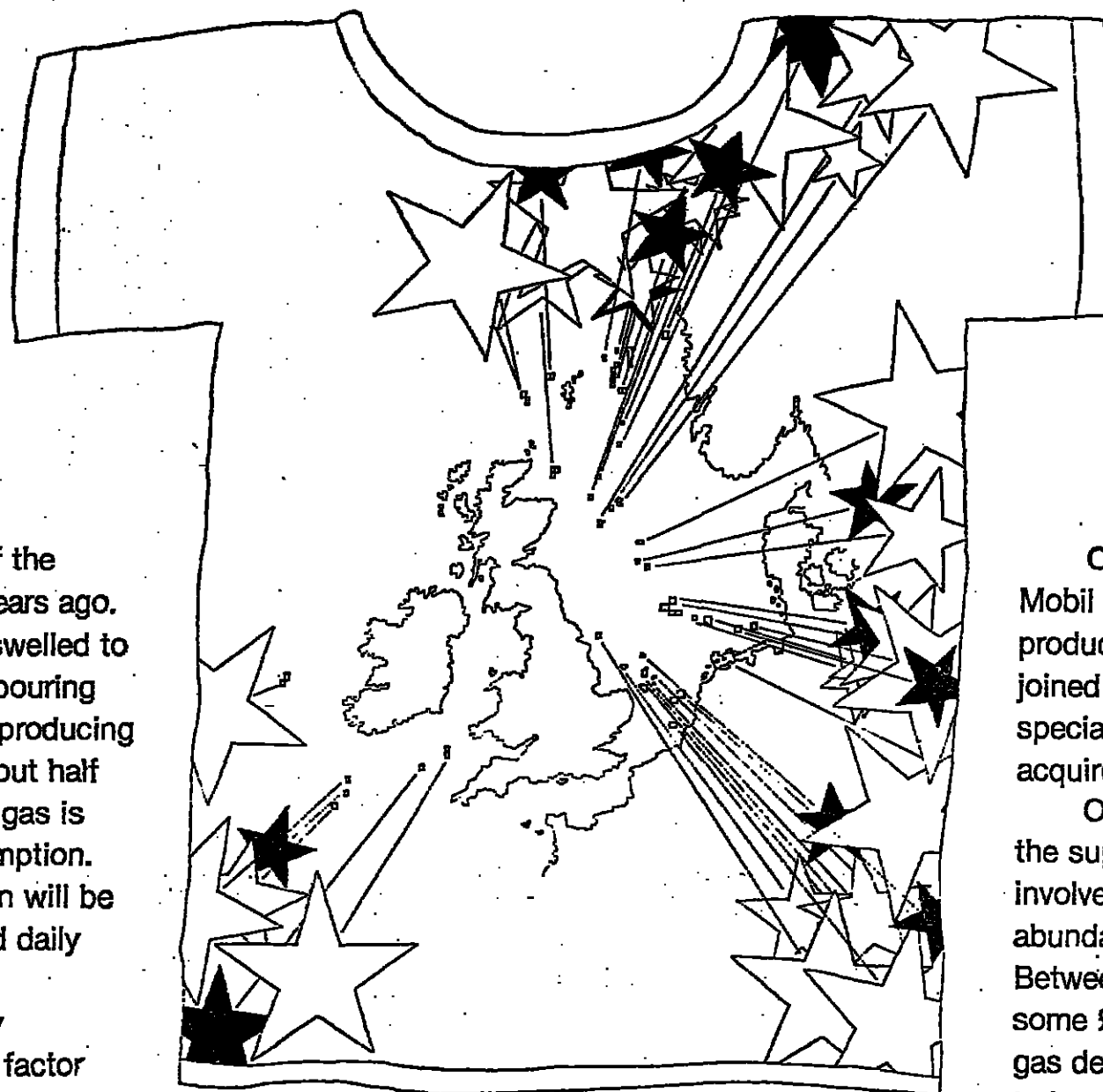
LE PIAT DE BEAUJOLAIS
Beaujolais at its very best.



The Great Pacific Cruise. Make Thomas Cook your first port of call.

The QE

"We could be Britain's most important rock group."



The first oil from the British sector of the North Sea arrived on British soil 2½ years ago. What began as a trickle has already swelled to a torrent, with some 800,000 barrels pouring into the U.K. each day from offshore producing fields. North Sea oil now provides about half the nation's requirements; North Sea gas is meeting 99 percent of current consumption.

By the end of this decade, Britain will be self-sufficient in oil, with an estimated daily production rate of 2 million barrels. Indeed, almost incredibly, the country is already on the way to becoming a factor in the world crude oil supply market.

Mobil is proud of its role in helping Britain achieve the remarkable transformation from an oil-importing to an oil-producing nation. Oil from our Beryl discovery is now providing nearly five per cent of the country's requirements. Other fields being evaluated by Mobil and its partners are expected to add to that contribution. And, of course, the search for new fields continues.

The impact of North Sea oil has profoundly affected every segment of the nation's economy. Thanks to North Sea oil, the value of British exports now exceeds the costs of goods purchased overseas, by a healthy margin. An estimated £5,000 million in taxes and royalties will flow into the Exchequer between 1977 and 1980. And by the middle of the next decade, North Sea operators will be paying some £3,500 million *annually* in taxes and royalties.

New industries have sprung up to provide the material and services needed to support

North Sea activities. "It is our policy to give 'full and fair opportunity' to British firms," says Mobil financial controller Bill Wende. "Over two-thirds of our material and contract service needs are provided from U.K. sources."

The services are many and varied: helicopters, which average 15 flights a week ferrying personnel and equipment between Aberdeen and the Beryl platform and offshore drilling rigs. Supply boats, to carry the estimated 3,600 tons of equipment needed for every North Sea well drilled—everything from diesel fuel to drill pipe to fresh vegetables. Caterers, to prepare and serve 900 meals a day for Beryl platform personnel.

Then, too, there are the workers themselves—who benefit directly from the jobs which North Sea oil has brought. Some 10,000 are currently employed by the industry in offshore exploration and producing activities. Several thousand more serve on pipelaying barges, crane barges and supply boats.

Over 90 per cent of those who work for Mobil in the North Sea are British. To most, oil producing was unfamiliar ground before they joined the company. Through experience and specialised training programmes, they have acquired valuable new skills.

Of course, the costs represented by all of the supplies, services, material and people involved in developing the North Sea's abundant oil and gas resources are enormous. Between 1965 and 1976 oil companies invested some £5,000 million in North Sea oil and gas developments (with perhaps as much again to be spent up to 1980), not counting the millions spent to drill unsuccessful exploration wells.

These costs, however, together with the high risks involved, should be justified by the promise the North Sea holds for making Britain self-sufficient in oil. By year's end, eight separate fields should be producing almost 1 million barrels of oil a day. These fields, together with a similar number likely to be developed, give promise of an additional 1 million daily barrels by 1980.

Long before the world's first well was drilled, American Indians used the black, sticky stuff that seeped out of the ground, for medicinal purposes. They called it 'rock oil.' Today, geologists are frequently referred to as 'rock hounds.' And our success in finding and producing oil—which we've described during the last seven weeks—depends on the presence of various rock types and formations.

So we don't think it inappropriate to describe ourselves as a 'rock group'—one which is aiming for the top of the charts!

Mobil

No. 7 in a series on North Sea operations.
For the complete set, write to: Manager, Public Affairs, Mobil North Sea Limited,
Mobil Court, 3 Clements Inn, London WC2A 2EB

HOME NEWS

More state aid for voluntary welfare organizations urged

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The voluntary welfare sector is thriving despite 30 years of the welfare state, according to the Wolfenden committee report on voluntary organizations published yesterday. But the Government and local authorities should take a more positive attitude towards them because they are financially insecure, unevenly distributed and leave many needs unmet.

More public money should be paid to voluntary organizations, the committee says, because demand for welfare help of all kinds shows no sign of diminishing, and statutory services cannot go on expanding. The Government should review the roles of the official services, the voluntary bodies and the network of informal care by families, friends and neighbours with a view to helping to extend substantially the voluntary sector.

"There is an urgent need to look afresh at the whole present pattern of social and environmental services and their organization," the report says. "In some situations it may be more desirable to encourage the voluntary and informal sectors to remain or become major instruments of social services."

The report is the work of a committee of inquiry, chaired by Lord Wolfenden and financed jointly by the Joseph Rowntree Memorial and Carnegie United Kingdom Trusts. It is believed to be the first overall examination of voluntary organizations for thirty years, but many bodies gave it only a qualified welcome yesterday.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Conservative spokeswoman on social services, described the report as defeatist and unlikely to match the expectations the voluntary movement had held out for it. Several voluntary organizations

criticized omissions, particularly for giving little consideration to the contribution of volunteers.

The report points out that the voluntary contribution amounts to about 16 million hours of work each week, at least equal in terms of man-hours to that of all paid staff in local authority social services departments. Lord Wolfenden said yesterday that little space had been devoted to volunteers themselves because the committee's brief was to examine the organizations for which they worked.

"The report is not meant to be a blueprint for voluntary organizations for the next 25 years," he said. "What we set out to do was an assessment. It is not intended to be the last word, but the beginning of a debate for which we have tried hard to provide some of the material and some of the evidence."

The committee wants more public funds made available from existing sources. It also recommends a new departure to help give local organizations some support and to initiate new bodies to meet neglected areas of need. It wants the Government to devote an extra £2.5m a year to "intermediary bodies" such as local councils of social service, rural community councils, and other bodies able to help develop and support local groups.

In addition, it wants the Voluntary Services Unit, which finances organizations working across departmental boundaries, moved out of the Home Office and into the portfolio of a minister without departmental responsibilities.

The Future of Voluntary Organizations—Report of the Wolfenden Committee (Croom Helm, 3-10 St John's Road, London SW1; hardback £6.50, paperback £2.95).

Leading article, page 19
Quiet revolution, page 18

Inquiry into motorway service areas

By Alan Hamilton

The Government has set up an independent inquiry into motorway service areas, after complaints from travellers.

The inquiry, which will be undertaken jointly by the Department of Transport and the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, will be chaired by Mr Peter Prior, chairman of Bulmers, the cider company. He will be assisted by Mr R. W. Davies, an industrialist, Mr George Hill, a hotel group chairman, Chief Supt L. R. Jones, of West Mercia Police, Mr Hugh Marshall, a lorry driver, and Miss Margaret Jones, consumer correspondent of the Daily Mirror. Mr Prior said yesterday he hoped to have his report ready by the end of June.

The inquiry has been asked to report on how far present facilities meet the convenience of users with regard to price, quality, variety and effective competition and on what further provision should be made. Mr Prior made clear yesterday that he regards any aspect of motorway service stations as being within his brief.

Members of the committee will set off soon to tour Britain,

often accompanying long-distance lorry drivers and making unannounced visits to the service areas.

Mr Prior was diplomatic about his past experience of motorway eating, but confessed that he usually made his frequent business trips between Hereford and London without stopping.

"We have read Bernard Levin and Egon Ronay on the subject, but we have also read Charles Fort," Mr Prior said, alluding to a recent correspondence in *The Times*. "We have no preconceived notions. We are aware that motorway service areas do not have a monopoly of soggy chips."

Critics of motorway food are asking what effective steps the inquiry can take to remedy matters, as most service areas are operated by contractors on a 50-year lease. They can be terminated only for gross breaches of the conditions, which require the provision of good food at reasonable prices.

The Department of Transport, which makes a formal inspection of each site once a year, has not found it necessary to terminate a lease since the first service area was opened in

Licences for betting offices still declining

By a Staff Reporter

The number of betting office licences and bookmakers' permits in force in Britain continues to fall, according to the Betting Licensing Statistics for 1976-77, published yesterday.

On June 1 last 13,254 betting office licences were in force, compared with 13,865 last year, 15 per cent fewer than in 1967. This year there were 8,082 bookmakers' permits in force, down from 8,221 in 1976, and 27 per cent lower than 10 years ago. There was a small increase in the number of bookmakers' permits in Scotland, but otherwise the drop was fairly uniform throughout Britain.

Figures for the number of betting office licences in particular areas show that Liverpool has the most in England, with 5,56 to 10,000 population apart from the City of London, which has 55,58 to 10,000, due to its large working population but few residents.

Rural Oxfordshire has the fewest in England, 1.01 to 10,000 population, closely followed by Solihull, West Midlands, with 1.05.

In Scotland, Cumnock and Doon Valley, Strathclyde, had the largest proportion, 5.46 to 10,000, and Bearsden and Milngavie, in the same region, had the fewest: just 0.26 to 10,000.

Welsh betting shops were commonest in the valleys of Mid Glamorgan, 5.41 to 10,000, and least common in Powys, with 1.18.

Widow murdered

Mrs Dorothy Manley, aged 78, a widow, was found battered to death yesterday at her home in Station Road, Shalford, Surrey, in similar circumstances to another widow's murder two years ago in a village nearby.

Bournemouth, East, by-election: New slant to the party pact
Former Labour candidate plumps for Liberal

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

In the by-election at Bournemouth, East, a Tory stronghold, the Labour candidate, Mr Joseph Goodwin, is the one with the beard. His predecessor in the two general elections in 1974, Mr Desmond Lock, also had one but has shaved it off. More than that, he is backing the Liberal candidate, Mr Donald Matthew.

If that confuses the visitor to the constituency, think how perplexing it must be for those Labour supporters who have to cast their votes tomorrow. Mr Lock explains his conversion in this way: "I think there are a lot of Labour supporters who are extremely grateful to the Liberal Party in their support for the Government and they would like to express their gratitude."

A former Labour councillor in Bournemouth, Mr Lock lives at Cambridge. He is still a member of the Labour Party

which he joined in 1962, but one suspects he will not remain one much longer. The Bournemouth party yesterday demanded an inquiry into his intervention in the by-election and it will be taken up by Labour's eastern region.

Mr Lock argues that a Tory vote is built into the constituency and Mr Matthew has the best chance of winning it over.

The Liberals hold second place in the constituency, although Mr Lock, in his two general election campaigns, helped to reduce their support by 4 per cent, improving his own share of the vote by the same margin. Four per cent is also the distance that separates the Liberal and Labour vote on the basis of the October general election.

Mr Matthew believes it is essential for the Liberals at least to hold their quarter share of the total vote, otherwise "I think the pressure from the Liberal Party in general and Liberal MPs at Westminster to

withdraw from the pact will be very great indeed."

He believes, however, that the seat can be won if the whole of the anti-Tory vote backs him (which is wishful thinking) and is confident that the Liberals' share of the electorate will hold. "If it does not, I do not know where we would go from there," he said yesterday.

The sight of the Liberal pact with Labour operating on the doorstep (Mr Lock accompanied Mr Matthew "on the knocker") is being played down by the Labour camp. "Nobody remembers him," Mr Goodwin said. But just in case some do he has blown the dust off Mr Lock's October 1974 general election address and the following passage: "It is sometimes argued that the best way to defeat the Conservatives in Bournemouth, East, is to vote Liberal. If you want a Labour government, vote Labour."

Pilot 'lost control' in one-engine practice

The pilot of an RAF Canberra that crashed at Humberston in May, killing three children and the crew of two, was practising landing on one engine, an inquest was told yesterday.

Group Captain Brian Farrar, a Ministry of Defence Inspector, said the most likely cause of the accident was the pilot's loss of control.

The inquest was told that on May 3 the aircraft went on a reconnaissance flight to Scotland from RAF Wyton. After nearly three hours it returned to base for a practice single engine landing.

As it turned into the approach it began to oscillate and dived into a row of houses, wrecking six.

Kelly Middleton, aged two, Tracy Louise Middleton, aged four, and Adrian Thompson, aged six, were killed. Mrs Middleton, 37, died from a massive skull fracture. Mrs Thompson, 37, died from multiple injuries. The jury returned verdicts of accidental death on the five.

Group Captain Farrar said Flight Lieutenant Armitage had 1,010 hours flying experience, of which 610 were in Canberra. He had applied 92 per cent full power to one engine, "which is more than is recommended—we do not know why". The recommended power was 85 per cent.

Group Captain Farrar explained that wind direction and the runway position meant that the manoeuvre had to be made over a built-up area.

The coroner said: "You might say the houses should not have been built; you might say a lot of things. The pilot was competent and had practised the manoeuvre frequently."

Club director remanded on vice charges

Harry Meadows, aged 39, director of Churchills, the London night club, appeared at Bow Street Magistrate's Court yesterday charged with his son, Andrew, aged 34, and Leslie Borloli, the club licensee, with living off the earnings of prostitution between February and November.

Mr Borloli is further charged with knowingly allowing the club premises to be the habitual resort of repeated prostitutes and the Meadows were accused of aiding and abetting him.

All three were granted bail in the sum of £1,500 and remanded until January 17.

No endorsement in cases from wardens

From Our Correspondent

Nottingham

Motorists convicted of driving offences involving traffic wardens learnt yesterday after a test case that they can have endorsements removed from their licences.

Judge Seal ruled at Nottingham Crown Court that cases brought by wardens do not carry endorsements. The loophole in the Road Traffic Act, 1972, was discovered when Dr. R. Saunders of Nottingham City Hospital, challenged the wardens' powers after he had been convicted by Nottingham magistrates of ignoring a warden's sign, which said "stop" through traffic lights.

The decision affects motorists throughout the country. Some may have been wrongly disqualified under the endorsement procedure. Mr David Ritchie, chief prosecuting solicitor for Nottingham said motorists could apply to have endorsements removed. "The warden have decided not to appeal against the ruling," he said.

Doctors' dilemma over brain-damaged woman

Dr Lim Poh Choo, aged 41, a psychiatrist, who went into hospital for a minor operation was condemned to a dreadful fate by an anaesthetist's tragic mistake, Mr Christopher French, QC, her counsel, said in the High Court yesterday.

She suffered massive and permanent brain damage due to oxygen starvation. Mr Justice Bristow said. She would be mentally and physically disabled for the rest of her life.

The judge raised the question whether Dr Lim should have been allowed to live. He said: "One of the questions that arises is whether it was really wise to bring her back to life in the intensive care unit. Doctors are in an intolerable dilemma."

Mr French replied: "One may have a tragedy, as in this case, or one may have a miracle. This was the dilemma."

Dr Lim, now living in Penang, West Malaysia, claimed damages through her widowed mother, Lim Glim Choo, against Camden and Islington Area Health Authority.

The authority admitted liability and the judge had only to decide the amount of damages to award.

Mr French said Dr Lim had gone into the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, London, on February 28, 1973, for a small gynaecological operation.

The hearing continues today.

Call for control over EEC food prices in Britain

By Hugh Clayton

Any British government will have to keep control over EEC food prices in this country, Mr Brian Hayes, deputy secretary in charge of farm policy at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday.

"The right level for prices in this country; the right level, that is for the 'green pound', is a matter for decision on the basis of national interest," he said at a conference at Edinburgh organized by the East of Scotland College of Agriculture.

He made clear in what will be seen by farmers as a speech with strong political overtones that their long-standing claim for full integration with the Community's farm price machinery had been rejected in Whitehall.

Mr Hayes said that future governments would want an efficient, prosperous and growing agriculture in Britain. But he added: "The Government has a responsibility to consumers as well as producers, to the standard of living of the great bulk of the population, to the need to get inflation under control."

He was pleased that the European Commission was starting to adopt British views about the need to control prices that official Community prices had been too high.

EEC food policy, page 18
Business Diary, page 31

Manx nationalist party split leads to collapse

From Our Correspondent

Douglas, Isle of Man

The 16-year-old Isle of Man Manx nationalist party, appeared to be in collapse yesterday after being split by demands for the Manx Government to stop allowing the British Army to use the island for summer training and to rest troops from Belfast.

The party was becoming increasingly successful with the electorate, having gained its first seat in the House of Keys at a by-election in 1975.

A group led by Mr Peter Craime (South Douglas) and including Mr David Kegan, the party chairman, and most of the other senior officials, have resigned and are to hold a meeting next month to form a new party.

They oppose the activities of a faction that has formed an "autonomous" alliance. Mr Craime said yesterday that the faction had aligned itself with the "get the troops out" movement in Britain.

Apartments plan to help Royal Automobile Club

The Royal Automobile Club, the largest club left in London, may overcome its financial difficulties with the aid of a plan by European Ferries to turn part of the club's Pall Mall building into luxury apartments.

The plan was outlined on Monday by Sir Clive Bosson, the chairman, to more than 500 of the 9,000 members. They elected a working committee to examine the plan and other ways to help the club.

Sir Clive said that, under the plan the remainder of the club's lease from the Crown Agents would be assigned to European Ferries for at least £500,000 and the agents would give a new 30-year lease to European Ferries.

The RAC would keep the swimming pool, dining room, bars, public rooms and other facilities.

The rest of the building, much of which is now bedrooms, would be converted into luxury apartments. European Ferries would contribute £750,000 towards refurbishing.

'Shorter sentences way to cut jail numbers'

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

The best hope for a reduction of the prison population must lie in shorter sentences, a Home Office review of criminal justice policy says. That would follow from changes in remission or parole or in sentencing practices.

Any increase in remission of prison sentences, the review says, would have a deterrent effect, could be considered only as a last resort. "While policy must be to encourage the use of existing non-custodial disposals," it is added, "the development of those that employ probation manpower can proceed only as fast as extra resources become available."

The review, published yesterday, considers if present policies are "too soft". It says: "Such research evidence as there is suggests that the view that increasing the severity of penalties diminishes the level of recidivism, and the history of penal institutions both in this country and abroad suggest that though the system itself may have a deterrent effect, harshness alone (at any rate of a degree that is acceptable to contemporary British society) is not a general deterrent."

Discussing the prevention of crime through social policy, the review says work is in hand exploring how the Home Office could more readily involve other Government departments, local authorities and agencies outside government.

There is also likely to be continuing public interest in the involvement of different racial groups in crime. Any changes in attitudes among delinquents in these groups are likely to derive from changes in social policy and public attitudes rather than from activity within the criminal justice system.

The review was prepared especially for internal use. Its publication is intended as a contribution to public debate in line with the Government's declared aim of more openness. A Review of Criminal Justice, 1976 (Stationery Office, £1.25).

No parole for George Ince after inquiry

The Parole Board has decided not to release George Ince. His case, which was considered by the board last week for the first time, will be examined again in a year.

Last month, the Home Secretary, in a letter to Mr Ian Mikardo, MP, said Mr Ince must continue his 15-year jail sentence.

Mr Rees made the decision after the third independent police inquiry involving Mr Ince, who was jailed four years for his part in the silver bullion robbery at Mountnessing, Essex, in 1972.

The Home Office said Mr Rees had not found anything to justify action on his part.

Prince of Wales tells of royal rubbish collection

The Prince of Wales told a gathering in HMS Belfast in the Thames yesterday that he and his brother Andrew had collected three to four plastic sacks of rubbish at Windsor Great Park on Christmas Day last year.

"It is amazing how much you find," the Prince said, referring to his "dustman's duties". He was putting the royal seal to a community work competition organized by Look and Learn, the children's magazine.

He congratulated 13 contestants aged between nine and 16 who had written essays about community work where they live.

The three winning essays were by Suzanne Panti, aged 16, of Cothrib Road, Farnborough; Kate Mault, aged 16, of Little Newham, Cambridge; and William McLaren, aged 13, of Skipsness, Strathclyde. They carved a Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust "medal" for the Prince.

The Prince spoke of his rubbish collecting expedition after reading William McLaren's essay in which the village organized a beach clean-up. He also praised essays of young people who looked at suitable work locally.

Husband drank weedkiller when he realized mistake

A man whose wife drank parquat, the weedkiller, thinking it was sherry, swallowed parquat himself yesterday when he realized the mistake, the Leeds coroner was told yesterday.

Mr Josiah Walker, aged 73, of Morning Pastures, Acaster Selby, near York, had later told his daughter-in-law that he might be dead within a week and that he accepted it.

His daughter-in-law, Mrs Frances Walker, of Abbey Road, Knaresborough, told the inquest "He explained that he had taken sherry up to the bedroom while waiting for the kettle to boil."

"Later he heard mother being sick, and she said the sherry tasted funny. Then he

drank what was left in the bottom of the glass. I seem to remember him saying he went downstairs and poured himself some more."

Det Inspector William Herbert said in spite of a search with dogs and divers no trace of the sherry bottle was found.

An open verdict was recorded in the case of Mrs Grace Walker, aged 75, who died in hospital at Leeds on October 6. The coroner recorded a verdict that Mr Walker, who died in hospital next day, killed himself.

Earlier the inquest had been told by Mr Michael Walker, of Pratt Lane, Mirfield, that his mother and father had an extremely fine relationship.

Four-year cut in sentence for pub bomber

Alexander Brown, aged 19, of Bangor, Co Down, jailed for 14 years for his part in the Biddy Mulligan public house bomb blast in London two years ago, had his sentence cut to 10 years by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Mr Brown, a chef, was jailed at the Central Criminal Court on October 12 last year for causing an explosion at the public house, in Kilburn High Road, and plotting to cause an explosion.

The court rejected pleas by three other men for leave to appeal against their sentences for causing the blast and conspiring to cause an explosion.

IF YOU SMELL GAS-RING US

If you smell gas, remember the simple safety rules:-

- * Don't smoke or use naked flames.
- * Don't operate electrical switches-on or off.
- * Do open doors and windows.
- * Then check that you haven't left the gas on and unlit-or that a pilot light has not gone out.

If you suspect a gas leak, turn off the supply at the meter—and report the leak. Do this at once.

The number's in the telephone directory under Gas—and we're on call 24 hours a day.

We'll come quickly and deal with the problem. And if you smell gas at work or in the street, please report it at once. Don't leave it to someone else.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU—24 HOURS A DAY



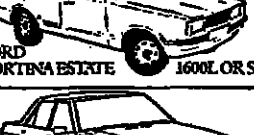
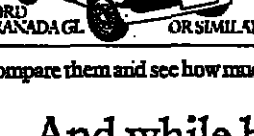
Ask at your local gas showroom for our free booklet 'Help Yourself To Gas Safety', which describes the full range of services we provide.

BRITISH GAS

Read this before your Financial Director.

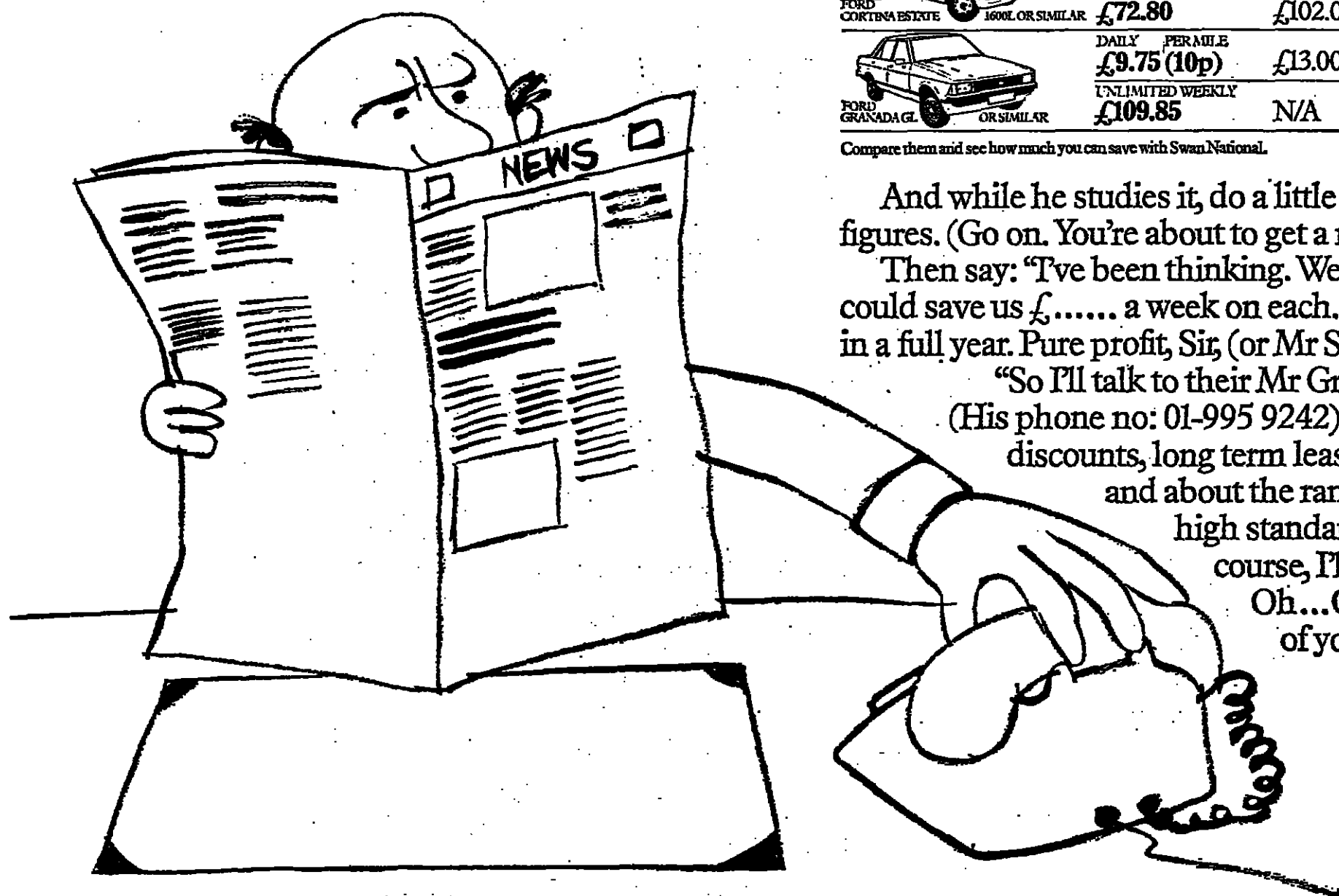
It's about car rental. Or, rather, it's about money.
Hence your Financial Director's interest. And it would be much better to talk to him about it, before he talks to you about it.
What do you say? Something like this:
"Sir," (or Mr Smithers, or Ted, or You Old Skinflint—depends on the terms you're on), "we rent cars".
"And I've discovered a way to boost our profits by renting cars for far less money".
(Carry on. He's hooked).
"There's a British company called Swan National. They have 70 locations throughout the country, each operating a one-way rental system at no extra charge. Their fleet of long and short term rental cars is possibly the largest in the land. They have InterRent car rental link-ups in 33 countries. Point is, they charge less. Far less. Look".
At this point, put this table under his nose:

Taken from current tariffs: Swan National 1st June 1977, Avis 1st July 1977, Godfrey Davis 4th July 1977, Hertz October 1977.

TYPE OF CAR	SWAN NATIONAL	AVIS	GODFREY DAVIS	HERTZ
 FORD ESCORT 1100L OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE £4.25 (5p) UNLIMITED WEEKLY £49.45	£4.95 (5½p)	£4.95 (5½p)	(L3 GL model) £4.95 (6p)
 FORD CORTINA 1600L OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE £5.85 (6p) UNLIMITED WEEKLY £63.05	£6.25 (6½p)	£6.25 (6½p)	£7.00 (8p)
 FORD CORTINA ESTATE 1600L OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE £6.75 (7p) UNLIMITED WEEKLY £72.80	£8.50 (8½p)	£8.25 (8½p)	(GL model) £11.00 (11p)
 FORD GRANADA GL OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE £9.75 (10p) UNLIMITED WEEKLY £109.85	£13.00 (12½p)	£12.50 (13p)	Not shown (L3 GL model) £19.00 (19p)
		N/A	£141.75	Not shown

Compare them and see how much you can save with Swan National.

Tell him before he tells you!



And while he studies it, do a little work to fill in the following figures. (Go on. You're about to get a rise, aren't you?)
Then say: "I've been thinking. We rent..... cars. Swan National could save us £..... a week on each. That's a total saving of £..... in a full year. Pure profit, Sir, (or Mr Smithers, etc.)
"So I'll talk to their Mr Grimshaw about it, shall I?"
(His phone no: 01-995 9242). "I'll ask him about volume discounts, long term leasing, vans, credit arrangements, and about the range of cars they offer and the high standards they work to. Yes, right, of course, I'll do it this morning.
Oh.... Oh, thank you, that's very nice of you, Sir (or Ted, or whatever)".

SWAN NATIONAL

FOR YOUR NEAREST BRANCH SEE YELLOW PAGES, OR WRITE TO
305/307 HIGH ROAD, CHISWICK, LONDON W4 4HH.

Make the switch and make more money.

HOME NEWS

Trust seeks to curb speculators' demolitions

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The law should be amended to require consent for demolition, which in turn should not normally be granted without permission for reuse of the site, the Civic Trust states in a report published yesterday.

Premature demolition is the commonest immediate reason for land becoming dormant and is sometimes used to engender an impression of progress, the trust says. "Private developers are occasionally minded that planning permission for a new building may be easier to obtain for an ugly gap site than an occupied one."

The report also calls for rates to be levied and progressively increased on land left idle for longer than, say, two years. In cases of encouragement to landscape or reinstate disused land should be encouraged by tax relief.

Despite its moderate language the report is an impressive indictment of the failure of land-use policies and legislation to prevent the haphazard waste of an increasingly precious commodity. Photographs of urban wasteland are vividly contrasted with those of ill-conceived development on the urban fringes, which cause the loss of thousands of acres of productive farmland.

The report distinguishes between the 137,000 acres of land in England and Wales officially classified as derelict and the 250,000 acres that it estimates are merely "dormant". Whereas land made derelict by excavation and other industrial exploitation may require substantial reclamation, "dormant" land could be brought immediately into productive use.

But whereas local authorities are required to carry out regular surveys of derelict and disused land, such surveys specifically exclude sites cleared for redevelopment. Mr. Shure, Secretary of State for the Environment, agreed last year that an estimate of the total amount of unused land held by local authorities, unimproved, idle, and related bodies could be provided only "at disproportionate cost".

To judge from questions raised, mainly by non-journalists, at a news conference yesterday, the report is likely to cause much heart-searching. Mr. Bernard Kauckas, environment director of the British Railways Board, which is criticised in the report, was moved to deny that the board had been neglectful of its duty and to point out that it had disposed of more than 71,000 acres in the past 13 years for about £200m.

Mr. Thomas Cavusgil, secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said local authorities did not like having empty sites all over the place. "But this is a matter to what we can do within the existing restraints," he said.

The report, which is commended by Mr. Shure in a foreword as "timely and independent", relies on a number of sources including the Greater London Development Plan, the government-sponsored Inner Area Studies, an independent land-use survey under the direction of Dr. Alice Coleman, of King's College London, and the results of questionnaires sent to local authority officers.

Among its other more important recommendations are that agricultural land should not be diverted for any other purpose unless it can be shown that the new use is more important and that no alternative site is available. That road construction improvement plans should be reviewed at least every five years; and that local authorities should grant licences for the short periods for temporary use of vacant sites they own.

Perhaps the best known empty site in Britain is the Sanctuary, opposite Westminster Abbey. Owned, with the neighbouring site, by the Government for nearly thirty years, it has been found no better use than as a car park and a refreshment point for taxi drivers.

The site was formerly occupied by the old Westminster Hospital, damaged by wartime bombing and demolished in 1951. For a time it was considered for the new headquarters of the Colonial Office, until it was decided in 1958 that the need for such an establishment no longer existed.

In 1965 it was encompassed in the fortunately ill-fated Martin/Buchanan plan to demolish and rebuild virtually the whole of Westminster and Whitehall, including the Home Office and the Foreign Office. That plan was abandoned in 1972.

Since then it has been designated for a future government conference centre but, although design competitions have been held, no firm plans have been put forward. Last week the British Tourist Authority said it was interested in using it for a new tourist centre.

Urban Wasteland (Civic Trust, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1, £2 plus 40p postage).



Christmas crisis: To help some of the thousands who, like these two men, will be homeless over Christmas, the charity Crisis at Christmas, yesterday launched an appeal for cash, clothing and food to provide five days of meals and shelter at that time (Annette Ferriman writes). Lady Macleod of Borne, whose husband, the late Mr. Ian Macleod, started the organization ten years ago, said yesterday that it was imperative that the single homeless should be made a priority of local authorities, so that the number of those "who still rot away, homeless and neglected" could be reduced. She had been disappointed at the

low priority given to their needs in the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, which becomes operative next week. The situation was deteriorating, as clearance schemes in inner-city areas made cheap lodgings disappear and as a growing number of young people flocked to the big cities looking for work. She was speaking at the St. George's Men's Unit, a Methodist mission in Cable Street, east London, one of nine hostels for the homeless to which Crisis at Christmas contributes. Crisis at Christmas hopes to raise about £40,000 this year, £3,000 more than last, through a sponsored walk from

Canterbury to London, a concert at Plaistead Hall, London, at which Mr. Edward Heath will conduct, and a carol service at Southwark Cathedral. Several thousand pounds will be spent on providing shelter and about 17,000 meals for the homeless from December 23 to 28 at St. Mary's Church, Lambeth, and the rest will go towards nine rehabilitation centres and hostels throughout the country. Further details of the appeal are available from Crisis at Christmas, St. Vincent's, 85 Carlisle Place, London SW1.

National priorities suggested for school-building expenditure

By Diana Gaddes
Education Correspondent

It would cost more than £1,500m to bring all the 28,000 schools in England and Wales up to acceptable modern standards, a government report published yesterday, says. The Government's present spending programme provides for only £127m to be spent on school improvements over the period 1976-81.

In a foreword to the report on school building by an inter-departmental study group, Mr. Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, makes clear that the total cost of removing all the deficiencies would be far more than the country could afford for school improvements over the next decade.

National priorities for school building expenditure over the next decade, were therefore needed. A consultative document and the report have been sent to local authorities and the main national educational organizations. Their views are sought before January 31, so that broad agreement may be reached on long-term objectives.

The report proposes for consideration a number of national priorities, which would cost about £640m (at 1976 prices) to implement over the next decade. That is well under half the total estimated in the report as required to carry out all necessary improvements, but more than double the present level of government spending.

The report makes no comment on whether that level of spending would be approved by the Government. Mr. Williams simply talks in terms of needing "to concentrate a greater part of our resources for a number of years to help in a major way, perhaps by more than one school in ten, chosen

for the area it serves and its condition, with only very modest resources, for the remaining schools". The report is based on two sample surveys in 1975 and 1976 of schools in England and Wales. It was found that more than half the 23,000 primary schools and two fifths of the 5,000 secondary schools were built before 1945, and that, of all primary places were built before 1903.

Two fifths of primary schools and half of secondary schools are considered overcrowded, and a half of those are badly overcrowded. A tenth of the nine million schoolchildren are in temporary buildings, most without basic services. Staff space is inadequate in three quarters of all schools. About a quarter of schools still have outdoor lavatories.

Nearly a fifth of the 12,500 pre-1945 primary schools are in poor environments, the report says. They include areas seriously affected by noise, fumes, a quarter have "grossly inadequate sites" amounting to less than three quarters of the statutory minimum.

Nine out of ten secondary schools lack practical accommodation in some areas, and workshops. "The deficiencies in practical accommodation, damaging in any circumstances, may critically inhibit progress in the comprehensive reorganization in some areas, and may also limit that part of the curriculum which has particular technical and industrial relevance," the report says.

About a quarter of state secondary schools are not yet comprehensive, almost all of which date from before 1946. To bring them up to the standards of a post-war school would require £30m, the report estimates. To provide adequate staff and pupil space for the

In brief

80p levy on air passengers

Mr. Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Trade, confirmed that the 80p levy on air passengers, which is to be introduced on the drawing board, will be at the rate of 80p for each arriving passenger.

His reasons are much the same as those which inspire Christo: the rebuilt Reichstag is at once a symbol of hope for German reunification and of the triumph of democracy in a city where East and West confront each other. The project would undoubtedly cause a big stir.

Christo, who has made a name for himself by wrapping

objects, buildings and even long stretches of landscape in various materials, presented his project to Herr Carstens and other German politicians earlier this year.

Herr Carstens said later he had been impressed by the project and thought it would have a great artistic effect. But as the Reichstag was a symbol of German unity, the plan would "certainly arouse controversy and probably start a fierce row".

A model and illustrations of the project are on show at the German pavilion in London, and Christo is said to be still hoping to win through.

"He hopes in vain" a Bundestag spokeswoman said today. "Herr Carstens is not going to change his mind."

Fourth championship The supreme championship of the Birmingham Pro-Christo, Feststock Show at Stafford yesterday, was a two-year-old Aberdeen Angus steer, Bob, the fourth successive champion awarded to Mr. John Mansfield, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

Front leader marries Mr. John Tyndall, chairman of the National Front, was married at Hove, Sussex, at the weekend to Valerie Ollivier, 34, the divorced daughter of a former National Front parliamentary candidate, it was disclosed yesterday.

By-pass route agreed The six-mile route of the Beverley south-western by-pass has been officially agreed. It was announced yesterday. The road, from the A1079 north of Hull to Bishop Burton, Humbershire, could be started within two years.

Gary Glitter sues Gary Glitter, the rock singer, is not to appear at concerts in Ipswich and Glasgow, next April, after issuing a High Court writ yesterday for breach of contract against concert tour promoters.

More road casualties The number of casualties in road accidents last September was 1 per cent higher than in September a year ago.

WEST EUROPE

France demands a larger share of EEC regional fund

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Nov. 22

France issued a warning here today that it might block the renewal next year of the EEC's regional fund, which is used to promote the development of the Community's backward areas, unless its share of the fund's resources was increased.

Britain, Ireland and Italy countered by insisting that they should retain their present shares, which would be impossible if French wishes were met. Unable to resolve the dispute, EEC foreign ministers referred the matter to the EEC summit meeting on December 5 and 6.

Dr. David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, told journalists that there was a danger the French might try to link the regional fund issue with a separate dispute over the size of British contributions to the EEC budget over the next two years. A tentative compromise was reached on this last night and also sent to heads of government for a final decision.

The European Commission, backed by the European Parliament, has proposed allocating about £490m to the regional fund in 1978. This would be not far short of the

total of £542m made available to the fund over the entire first three years of its existence.

Britain, Ireland and Italy support this big increase in the fund's resources, but other members would generally like to hold expenditure on the fund to current levels. The British regard the fund as one of the main achievements of their renegotiation of EEC membership.

The French are demanding that their share of the fund's resources should be raised from 15 per cent to 21 per cent to provide more assistance to their dependent overseas territories. Present shares of the fund are as follows: Italy 40 per cent; Britain 28 per cent; France 15 per cent; West Germany 6.4 per cent; Ireland 6 per cent; Holland 1.7 per cent; Belgium 1.5 per cent; Denmark 1.3 per cent and Luxembourg 0.1 per cent.

There is further dispute over the Commission's proposal that a portion of the fund's resources should be outside the national quota system. The idea is that this quota-free portion could be disbursed by the Commission as it saw fit, thus introducing a supranational element into the management of members' regional development policies. This prospect alarms many of the Nine.

Plan to wrap up Reichstag scrapped to avoid dispute

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, Nov. 22

Plans by Christo, the Bulgarian-American artist, to wrap the Berlin Reichstag in 150,000 square feet of white fabric are doomed to remain on the drawing board, Herr Karl Carstens, the President of the West German Bundestag, who administers the building, said today.

His reasons are much the same as those which inspire Christo: the rebuilt Reichstag is at once a symbol of hope for German reunification and of the triumph of democracy in a city where East and West confront each other. The project would undoubtedly cause a big stir.

Christo, who has made a name for himself by wrapping

objects, buildings and even long stretches of landscape in various materials, presented his project to Herr Carstens and other German politicians earlier this year.

Herr Carstens said later he had been impressed by the project and thought it would have a great artistic effect. But as the Reichstag was a symbol of German unity, the plan would "certainly arouse controversy and probably start a fierce row".

A model and illustrations of the project are on show at the German pavilion in London, and Christo is said to be still hoping to win through.

"He hopes in vain" a Bundestag spokeswoman said today. "Herr Carstens is not going to change his mind."

Madeira crash crew '14 hours on duty'

Lisbon, Nov. 22.—(The crew of the Portuguese airliner that crashed in Madeira, on Saturday night, killing 130 people, had worked 14 consecutive hours, the Portuguese Press Union announced today.)

In a statement the union said the airport on the island had special characteristics "that diminish the safety margin in case of mechanical or human failure".

The TAP Boeing 777 is believed to have landed halfway along the runway, plunged into the sea at the end—Agence France-Press.

Thatcher visit to Brussels

Mrs. Thatcher will visit the Brussels headquarters of both Nato and the European Commission on Thursday and Friday next week.

She will meet among others General Balle, Supreme Allied Commander Europe, Dr. Luns, Nato Secretary-General, Mr. Smeets, Belgian Foreign Minister, and Mr. Jenkins, President of the Commission.

Friendship treaty signed by Madrid and Lisbon

Madrid, Nov. 22.—Spain and Portugal signed a friendship and cooperation treaty today establishing a Madrid-Lisbon basis for the defence of democracy in the Iberian peninsula.

The new treaty revives joint military manoeuvres between the Portuguese and Spanish armed forces, which were suspended when the April, 1974, coup ended nearly 50 years of right-wing dictatorship in Portugal.—Reuters.

The 10-year agreement replaced the 1939 mutual non-aggression treaty known as the Berlin Pact between the peninsula's late dictators, General Franco of Spain and Dr. Salazar of Portugal.

A preamble to the new treaty stated that "the strengthening of cooperation between the two peninsular nations will serve the

M Barre to tackle issue of lower paid workers

From Ian Murray
Paris, Nov. 22

A survey of the French wage structure drawn up at the request of M. Barre, the Prime Minister, was published today. The figures relate to last year, but even so it is the most up-to-date, comprehensive document of its kind produced by the Centre d'études des revenus et des coûts.

The report shows that in 1976 a third of all workers earned less than 2,000 francs (£220) a month and that 55 per cent earned between the minimum basic wage level, which is adjusted against the cost of living, and 2,500 francs.

Agricultural workers tended to be at the bottom of the scale, with an average of 2,180 francs compared to the average 2,200 francs paid to manual workers in industry. Foremen's average pay was 3,800 francs and the white collar professional average from 4,100 to 8,400 francs. The average Civil Service pay was 3,120 francs.

M. Barre is to raise the matter of wages at tomorrow's meeting of the Cabinet, which is to set out the Government's policy on wages for next year. Politically

Another pistol found in cell at Stammheim

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, Nov. 22

A pistol and a "sizeable quantity" of ammunition have been found hidden in the wall of a cell formerly occupied by a terrorist at Stammheim high security jail near Stuttgart, the Baden-Württemberg Justice Ministry said today.

The pistol was the third to have been found in Stammheim, despite thorough searches of the terrorists' lawyers and visitors. The other two were used by two leaders of the Baader-Meinhof group, Andreas Baader and Jan-Carl Raspe, to commit suicide on October 18.

The subsequent search of the terrorists' cells in the fourth floor of the prison has yielded two caches of explosive, a transistor radio, a communications network by which they could contact each other in defiance of temporary isolation measures, earphones, batteries, razor blades and other objects. The hiding places were so cunningly devised that the investigators had to tear down the walls to find them.

An interim report on the investigation suggested that the objects had been smuggled in bit by bit. It threw suspicion on the terrorists' defence lawyers and said it had been particularly difficult to conduct a thorough body search of the women lawyers.

The last pistol, a Colt .38 detective special, was found in a hiding place in an unoccupied cell on the seventh floor. The last occupant, Herr Helmut Pohl, had been moved out on August 12.

Herr Joerg Lang, a lawyer and one of the 16 people wanted by the police in connection with the terrorism crimes, had written a letter to the West German news agency denying that he had any part in them. The police regard the letter as genuine.

Herr Lang, a former associate of Herr Klaus Croissant, the Baader-Meinhof defence lawyer extradited from Paris last week, went underground five years ago.

In his letter, postmarked in October 16, he said he had joined "a national liberation movement outside Europe", and neither he nor the movement had anything to do with the recent crimes in West Germany.

French warned of danger from oysters

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov. 22

Warnings about bacterial pollution in oysters has come from the consumers' organisation, Union Fédérale des Consommateurs, as France prepares for its annual oyster oyster at the end of the year.

According to the UFC, out of 25 batches bought at random in Paris and 12 at Rennes 60 per cent of the oysters were below the health standards set by the Pasteur Institute at Lille.

For worried oyster eaters the UFC gives two tests to tell whether anything is wrong once the shell is opened. First, the weight of the flesh and the weight of the water inside should be equal. Second, because the oyster ought to be still alive, it should contract slightly in reaction when lemon juice is squeezed on it.

Spanish parties agree on monarchy

From William Chislett
Madrid, Nov. 22

Spain will be a "parliamentary monarchy" according to the first draft of the new constitution which is being drawn up to replace General Franco's fundamental laws.

The monthly magazine *Comunismo para el Dialogo* is to publish the draft later this week. It was finished last week after three months of discussions between representatives of the main political parties.

It had been thought that the term "monarchy" might not appear in the first draft, in favour of the republicanism ideas of the Socialists and Communists. The political leaders have cooperated remarkably well over the first draft and can be expected to reveal their differences when work on the second draft begins.

The issue of monarchy or republic is not as sensitive as some make it out to be. The Socialists and Communists are traditionally republican but, as their leaders have said, the issue at the moment is the consolidation of democracy.

King Juan Carlos, who today celebrated the second anniversary of his ascent to the throne, does not apparently view the issue with alarm. He would be quite content if the word "monarchy" was left out of the final draft of the constitution if this meant avoiding a political dispute.

Another contentious issue is that of a state religion. Article three of the first draft, according to the magazine, says that Spain will be declared a non-confessional state.

The Archbishop of Madrid, Cardinal Enrique y Tarancón,

made an appeal on the first day of the second assembly yesterday for the state to ignore the Roman Catholic Church in the new constitution.

He said that the state could not turn its back on the social reality of the country in which many people belong to the Catholic Church.

The Government is expected to convene trade union elections at its Cabinet meeting tomorrow. The issue is likely to lead to a heated debate between the government and the trade unions. The Government does not intend to call the trade union elections for a certain date but over a period.

All this is interpreted by the left as an attempt to minimize their importance for as long as possible as the ending. Democratic Centre Union is poorly represented in the union.

Council determination to keep within guideline

By Our Local Government
Correspondent

Local government is determined to keep within the Government's 10 per cent guideline on earnings, Mr. Jack Smart, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said last night. Speaking after seminars on pay policy arranged by the association, he said: "We do not feel that there can be any special cases."

The Government's rate support grant settlement for 1978-79, which allowed for an overall rate of inflation of 9 per cent, had set cash limits on council spending that "ensure that the full cost of settlements with which the Government allows a special case it will have to pay its share of the cost."

Yesterday's meeting, for London local authorities, was the sixth in a series that also covered Tyneside, Yorkshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and West Midlands.

Local government has agreed on a 10 per cent increase for the police with a pay review to come, is grappling with the firemen's strike and has reached a crucial stage in negotiations with its million manual workers. Local government negotiators have told their brethren that while a 10 per cent pay increase is all they can offer now they are prepared to talk about a pay formula for the future.

The association has made clear that if the Government allows a special case it will have to pay its share of the cost.

Whitley Council's meeting is first since 1950

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

The Civil Service National Whitley Council, the supreme body in the service's bargaining structure, is to meet for the first time since 1950 to respond to a formal request from the unions.

The staff side, comprising nine unions, will protest at not having the pay research system operated for the April wage settlement next year. Agreement has been reached for its restoration for the 1979 award.

The unions want the meeting on December 1 but it is not yet clear whether the permanent secretaries of the main bodies brought together in time.

The work of the Whitley Council is usually conducted informally through committees. The pay research unit, established as a result of the Priestley commission in 1956, compares civil servants' pay with analogous workers in private industry and commerce.

A full research takes 18 months, but the unions believe it is possible to present broad conclusions on private sector wages before next April. Their view is that the Government will offer only 6 or 7 per cent next year to keep within the 10 per cent total wage bill guideline.

Doctor found guilty of signing blank prescription forms

Dr Barry Peatfield, aged 41, of Fockley Lane, Purley, Surrey, was found guilty yesterday for the second time in a year of serious professional misconduct. His practice is in Croydon.

The Disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council, sitting in London, suspended judgement for a year on a charge of his having signed blank prescriptions for a second year on charges of improper

associations with two married women patients. He has the right of appeal. Earlier, 45 patients, mostly women, went to the hearing waving placards in support of their doctor. They promised to return next year to help his fight to save his career.

As he left, Dr Peatfield said his patients had given almost £1,000 towards his lawyer's bills.

A year ago Dr Peatfield was found guilty of an improper association with Mrs Jenny Tan-

ner, his housekeeper, and another woman patient. Judgment was deferred to this week's hearing.

Yesterday a charge alleging that he gave his wife seven blank prescription forms was found proved by the committee. He was cleared on two similar charges.

Dr Peatfield told the committee that his wife suffered back pain and he thought she was dependent on pain-killers. She was depressed after their

Lord Rosslyn found shot dead

Lord Rosslyn, aged 60, the sixth earl, was found dead near gunshot wounds in woods near his home at Sharnock Row, near Reading, Berkshire, yesterday.

He had been reported missing by his doctor the previous afternoon.

Thames Valley police said that they do not suspect a crime but the coroner had been informed. *Obituary*, page 21

Warning about 'explosive stage' in technology

By Simon Midgley
Of The Times
Higher Education Supplement

A warning that the advance technology in the mid-1970s may have reached an explosive stage was given yesterday by Sir Ieuan Maddock, formerly Chief Scientist in the Department of Industry and the new secretary of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

He was delivering the inaugural Imperial College Jubilee Lecture, the first of an annual series created to celebrate the Queen's silver jubilee.

It was as an explosion that he saw the present growth of technology. "Explosions have the characteristic that they become uncontrolled and ultimately become violent; they catastrophically change their environment; they are irreversible; and they blow themselves out," he said.

"I see many signs that the mid-1970s' advance of technology has reached this explosive stage. It is certainly difficult now to control the expansion of technology even if the most determined efforts are made to contain it."

Even though armaments had reached the point where whole nations could be obliterated in a few hours the pressure to develop better weapons was stronger than the logic to call a halt.

Any thought of reversing the trend towards bigger and better technology seemed ludicrously optimistic given daily demands for more industrial expansion, modernization, computerization and increased productivity.

There were many signs of the exhaustion of the technological explosion, one of which was rapidly diminishing resources.

JPV 10/1/78

OVERSEAS

EEC hails Egyptian President's 'courageous initiative' and looks for response from Mr Begin

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Nov 22

The governments of the EEC today jointly urged all countries in the Middle East to follow up the "unprecedented dialogue begun in Jerusalem" by President Sadat and Mr Begin with "comprehensive negotiations leading to just and lasting overall settlement taking into account the rights and concerns of all the interested parties".

In a statement issued here by EEC foreign ministers, the Nine declared that it was "urgent that genuine peace at last be achieved for all the peoples of the area, including the Palestinian people, on the basis of the principles recognized by the international community, which are embodied in particular in the declaration of the European Council (EEC summit) of 29 June 1977".

The June declaration recognized among other things the Palestinians' "need" for a "homeland" as an indispensable element in any lasting solution to the Middle East conflict. Today's statement reinforces that declaration but does not make any new concessions or demands that the EEC should concede the Palestinians' right to an independent state on territory now occupied by Israel.

Stating that "conviction that mistrust constitutes one of the main obstacles to a peaceful settlement", the foreign ministers said they shared "the hope raised by the courageous initiative of President Sadat and his historic meeting

with the Israeli leaders". They also hoped that the Geneva conference could be reconvened in the near future.

Speaking to journalists, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said that the main achievement of the Sadat peace mission had been to "break the barrier of mistrust" and "make what was previously inconceivable conceivable" for both Arabs and Israelis.

Dr Owen emphasized that the EEC was interested in promoting an overall Middle East settlement and not just a bilateral agreement between Egypt and Israel. He said there was a general feeling among the Nine that the "imaginative gesture" had come from President Sadat and that the onus was now on Mr Begin to respond.

It was implicitly recognized in today's declaration, Dr Owen said, that a means must be found of ensuring that "the Palestinian people's voice is heard" in Geneva but there was no agreement yet among the Nine on the most appropriate way for them to be represented.

Dr Owen and most other foreign ministers would have preferred to have issued a statement of support for the Sadat mission at the end of last week before the Egyptian President arrived in Israel. But this was blocked by the French, who argued that to have done so might have made Mr Sadat's task more difficult.

In a separate statement, the foreign ministers declared that, as previously in the case of Transkei, they had no intention

of granting diplomatic recognition to the Bantustan of Bophuthatswana which is due to be given its "independence" by the South African Government on December 6.

The creation of Bantustans, the statement said, was "an integral part of the policy of apartheid, which the Nine have condemned on many occasions".

The foreign ministers agreed to continue to study the possibility of a ban on new investment in South Africa, curbs on export credit guarantees and other measures in the trade and cultural fields. But there was general agreement that there was no need for the moment to go beyond the United Nations arms embargo and the code of conduct adopted by the EEC earlier this year for European companies operating in South Africa.

Dr Owen said afterwards that the EEC would look at the situation again in the new year. The Nine apparently hope that, with the forthcoming general elections behind him, Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, may feel sufficiently confident to rescind some of his Government's recent repressive measures.

During a discussion on the progress of the Belgrade follow-up to the Helsinki conference, Dr Owen gave a warning against making over-ambitious claims for its achievements. It should be regarded as a useful statement of positions rather than a dialogue.

Poles urged to erase fears of one Germany

Warsaw, Nov 22—Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, today called on Poles to show understanding for his country's desire for German unity.

Addressing the Polish Academy of Sciences here he reminded his listeners that it was Polish patriotism that had defended their own country against partition and loss of sovereignty.

He urged Poles to appreciate "that the Federal Republic of Germany is striving for a peaceful situation in Europe which could enable the achievement of state unity of the Germans in free self-determination, although you as Poles might fear this possibility".

Commentators said it was significant that a West German Chancellor could make such a plea in a country which lost an estimated six million dead under Nazi occupation in the Second World War.

Earlier today Herr Schmidt, who arrived last night for the first official visit by a West German Chancellor since the countries resumed relations in 1972, opened formal talks with Mr Edward Giersek, the Polish party leader.

In his address to the academy, devoted to West Germany's détente policy, Herr Schmidt said détente could not be left in the hands of the great powers alone.

It was in the interest of the small and medium-sized powers to make their own contribution to détente, and not just look over the Atlantic or the Urals.

In a reference to the East-West troop reduction talks in Vienna, Herr Schmidt restated the Western position that NATO and the Warsaw Pact should have equal troop levels and that agreed ceilings should be collective for each block.

The Warsaw Pact would like national ceilings, enabling the size of West German forces to be limited. The Chancellor called for new impulses for the slow-moving Vienna talks but gave no details of West Germany's secret initiative aimed at breaking the deadlock.

Herr Schmidt told his listeners that neither West Germany nor Poland had been immune to the "virus" of nationalism, but conceded that memories of Hitler could not be cancelled with the stroke of a pen.

Herr Bölling, the official Bonn spokesman, said Herr Schmidt and Mr Giersek had discussed their countries' relations not as diplomats but in a friendly way and he spoke of growing confidence between the two men. Mr Giersek visited Bonn in June, 1976.

Herr Schmidt is seen in Poland as having largely inherited the views on Eastern Europe of his predecessor Herr Brandt, who came here in 1970 to sign a historic treaty normalizing ties.



The old town of Warsaw brought out Herr Schmidt's camera when the Chancellor spent the morning sightseeing.

Argentina given list of thousands missing

From Andrew Tarnowski
Buenos Aires, Nov 22

Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, has presented the Argentine Government with a list of 7,500 names of people said to have disappeared here or to have been arrested without legal process for political reasons it was reported here today.

Mr Vance flew on to Brazil today after talks with Argentine leaders yesterday, mainly concerned with human rights and Argentina's nuclear development programme.

The names that Mr Vance delivered were compiled from several lists drawn up by groups like the United States Council of Churches and the Washington Office on Latin America. Mr Vance asked the Argentine Government for information on these cases.

A United States official said they included "just about everyone to whom anything is ever believed to have happened in Argentina". There was considerable duplication, and out of 7,500 names perhaps half that number were persons really involved. "Maybe some of these

died five years ago", the official added.

A joint statement issued after Mr Vance's talks noted the responsibility of governments to strengthen human rights, and United States officials said Mr Vance had found the Argentine Government's attitude on this problem had improved.

"One can definitely say the Government's reaction to our approaches on human rights is certainly improving. Before, they stonewalled and cold-shouldered us on the subject. Now they are responding much more positively," a spokesman said.

"There may be just as many people disappearing as ever, but the Government's official attitude in dealing with us makes it easier to talk," he added.

On nuclear development, Mr Vance won a firm Argentine commitment to ratify the treaty of Tlatelolco declaring Latin America a zone free of nuclear weapons. In return, the United States promised to supply enriched uranium for a nuclear plant that Argentina is exporting to Peru, and to study other possibilities for providing the nuclear technology needed here.

Protest at Strauss line on Chile

A storm of protest has arisen here over a declaration by Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the right-wing Christian Social Union leader, that the Chilean Government's reputation abroad was the result of an international campaign of lies and slander.

Herr Strauss, speaking to miners at Rancagua during his current visit to Chile, said: "We are not afraid of manipulated public opinion". World history had rarely known an issue so great as those lost labour Chile.

Chile, he said, had been saved from becoming a bridgehead for the Communist conquest of South America. He realized what a heavy burden the Government had to bear and had complete faith in its promise to restore democracy.

Churchmen object to arms deal

By Peter Stafford

Plans to sell British military equipment to El Salvador have brought a protest from the Roman Catholic bishops' Commission for International Justice and Peace.

In a letter to Mr Rowlands, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, the commission refers to reports of repression by the military Government of El Salvador, and says the equipment, which includes light armoured vehicles, could be used for internal repression. It calls for a halt to the deal worth £850,000.

The violent nature of the El Salvador regime was described in a report published in London earlier this year.

China waits to see who wins

From David Bonavia
Peking, Nov 21

China's reaction to President Sadat's visit to Israel will depend on its degree of success.

If the visit contributes to a Middle East peace and wins the support of the majority of Arabs, Peking will cautiously welcome it. If it splits the Arab world still further and does not promote peace, Peking will make no comment. If it results in the unseating of President Sadat, Peking will renege on its promise.

China is prisoner of circumstance in the Middle East. Its contribution to decision-making in that part of the world is virtually nil. Its only interest is in being seen to support whichever party wins in the end. China refuses to have diplomatic relations with Israel for fear of offending the much more numerous Arabs. But it does not like seeing the Western world brought to its knees economically by oil crises, at a time when only Nato can restrain Soviet ambitions in Europe and elsewhere.

China's own growing oil industry is not yet a serious factor in the Middle East issue. China will continue to use oil production of less than 90 million tons a year mainly for domestic purposes, and sell whatever surplus it can afford to Japan, Hongkong and a few other places. It will not be a credible alternative to the Middle East as an oil supplier for years and perhaps decades to come, if ever.

Peking's principal aim in the Middle East is to see the Soviet Union's influence there diminished. It was delighted by the expulsion of the Russians from Somalia. But in all difficult and contentious questions Peking will simply keep a low profile and support what seems to be the majority of influential Arab opinion.

France stays silent on Sadat journey

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Nov 22

The French Government has been silent on President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. This has contrasted with the emotional tone of the French press, and the widespread feeling of French public opinion that it was a genuinely historic event.

The only official comment, made by M. Barre, the Prime Minister, in a television discussion on Sunday, revealed a strong dose of scepticism.

"The French Government," M. Barre said, "hopes that this gesture will be a step towards peace. But whatever the symbolic character of gestures, and the importance of the event, there will be real and lasting settlement in the Middle East only if fundamental problems are dealt with." He added:

"Let us wait and see what are the consequences of this symbolic gesture."

He justified the initial French refusal to approve a draft declaration of the Nine congratulating President Sadat on his "courageous initiative". He said that endorsement of this declaration had been requested on Friday afternoon for Saturday morning, and that it was "premature" in any case.

"French objections were withdrawn when the Council of Ministers had the opportunity this morning to discuss and approve a draft statement proposed by France and Germany, which laid emphasis on the need for a global settlement, taking into account the interests of all the parties concerned, and the rights of the Palestinians to a homeland."

Britain accused of trying to split Patriotic Front

Salisbury, Nov 22—A black nationalist leader today accused Britain of trying to split the Patriotic Front alliance.

Mr Josiah Chinamano, acting president of the African National Council—Zimbabwe, the front's political wing, said at a press conference that the British Government, press and secret service were trying to drive a wedge between Mr Robert Mugabe and Mr Joshua Nkomo, joint leaders of the front.

He showed a document he said was produced by British intelligence and intended to cause a split in the Patriotic Front. The paper purported to set out Mr Nkomo's plans for a military takeover, excluding Mr Mugabe, in the transitional period before independence.

Another ANCZ official said a white supporter of the organization had recently confronted Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, with evidence to sup-

port the charge. Dr Owen had said he had received M15 not to divide the Patriotic Front. "That speaks for itself," the official said.

Mr Chinamano said Britain and the West wished to see Mr Mugabe excluded from a majority rule settlement because they believe him to be sympathetic to communism.—UPI.

Lusaka, Nov 22—President Kaunda of Zambia is believed to be preparing a Note to Britain and the United States setting out his position on their Rhodesia settlement plan, diplomatic sources said. Mr Kaunda had secret talks with President Nyerere of Tanzania last weekend in an attempt to produce a united position in the plan among the five "front" African states. But the sources said, the meeting ended inconclusively. Disagreement is believed to centre on provision for pre-independence elections.—Reuters.

Somalia rescue by British army helicopter

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Nov 22

Two British Army scout helicopters, which were on a training exercise at a Kenyan military base, flew 400 miles today to rescue 45 people, mostly Britons, marooned on a hilltop by floods about 60 miles from Kisumu, in southern Somalia.

The Britons were working on a new water project, which Bookers International, a British group, are developing for the Somali Government. They fled to high ground when the Juba river burst its banks, flooding a wide area.

Reports here said that the stranded group had no food and the rescue operation had to be organized quickly. The Kenya Government gave immediate permission for the flight from Nairobi to Somalia, which also involved the flying of fuel supplies for the helicopters to two points on their route.

Fifty missing in new cyclone

Delhi, Nov 22—Fifty people were reported missing today when a new cyclone hit India's west coast. Between Calicut and Goa cyclonic winds sank and damaged many boats.

In the Bay of Bengal, rescue workers struggled to provide food, water and shelter for 200,000 homeless and to dispose of thousands of bodies posing health hazards after the even more deadly cyclone at the weekend.—Agence France-Press.

Aeroflot cancels supersonic flight

Moscow, Nov 22—For the successive week, Aeroflot airlines cancelled the scheduled flight of its Tu144 supersonic passenger airliner. There have been no flights on the Moscow to Alma Ata route since passenger service opened on November 2. Weather conditions at Alma Ata, 2,000 miles to the south, were blamed for today's cancellation.—UPI.

Who offers you more comfort between Britain and Germany?



Choose your Airbus connection in our Yellow Book.

Relax in the wide-bodied comfort of Lufthansa's European-made Airbus which operates from Heathrow to Frankfurt. The LH037 departs every evening from Heathrow to Frankfurt with the return flight LH034 coming back to Heathrow the following afternoon. Ask your travel agent or Lufthansa for the Yellow Book.



Lufthansa
German Airlines

YOU NEED A GOOD REASON
FOR BUYING AN ORIENT
QUARTZ CHRONOGRAPH.

HERE ARE
TWENTY



1. Stop watch measures from one second to 1/10 of a second.
2. Time is displayed while stop watch counts.
3. High precision controls with exceptionally clear LCD digital read out.
4. Automatic allowance for leap years.
5. Interchangeable seconds and date.
6. Automatic month-date display return.
7. Stop watch memory report.
8. Fast and simple time setting.
9. Setting mode indicator.
10. Anti-pump indicator ensures easy date correction.
11. Screen can be cleared totally to prolong battery life at night or when patient use.
12. Immediate date and auto-cleared screen.

Only £49.95

(Suggested Retail Selling Price)

ORIENT

The Orient Chronograph. One of a superb selection of Orient watches.
For your nearest Orient stockist, phone (01) 552 9877.

See the Orient Chronograph at Way-In at Harrods, Knightsbridge, London S.W.1; Jewellers and Silversmiths Company Ltd., Kingston upon Thames, Surrey; Orient Jewel Company 546 Oxford Street, Marble Arch, London W.1; Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W.1; Orient Watch Shop at Top Shop, corner of Regent Street and Oxford Street, London W.1.

ADVERTISEMENT

FIRE BRIGADES UNION

Why Firemen are on strike

THE national strike of Firemen is the first in the union's history.

WHY did they strike and why is the strike so solid?

Gross pay of a Recruit Fireman is £52.53 per week.

For a Qualified Fireman after four years' training and experience it is £65.70 per week. This for a married man with two young children, means, after tax and pension deductions, a take home pay of £46.71.

There are no additional allowances on top of pay.

Time after time since 1961 the Fire Service has suffered badly because of last minute intervention caused by governmental pay policies. Arising from the Cunningham Inquiry in 1971, a Qualified Fireman was placed on a rate of pay which was £2.58 above average male earnings. Today, his weekly pay is £12.90 below average earnings: a total worsening in his comparative pay position of £15.48 per week.

The Government insists that any increase for Firemen from November 7, 1977, must be within their 10 per cent guideline and that any further pay increase coming from the National Joint Council negotiations on a pay formula would have to be considered in the circumstances prevailing at the time.

A working group of the N.J.C. under the independent chairmanship of Lord McCarthy finalised a series of job-evaluation exercises by recommending that the value of a Fireman's job should be compared with the generality of jobs in the Community.

Based on this recommendation, the pay formula sought by the union is:

To set a Qualified Fireman's annual salary on a formula based on average male weekly earnings. The Government's guidelines of 10 per cent would not even half bridge the gap between Firemen's pay and average male earnings.

This is why Firemen are solidly saying **MORE MONEY NOW**. Express your support by writing to your Member of Parliament.

FIREMEN BELIEVE THIS CLAIM TO BE FULLY JUSTIFIED. THEY HOPE THE PUBLIC, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE EMPLOYERS WILL RECOGNISE THE JUSTICE OF THE CLAIM.

The Government's offer of reduced hours in the autumn of 1978 and the recruiting of the necessary additional men is a totally separate issue and in any case the move to the 42-hour week is long overdue.

Issued by the National Officer, Fire Brigades Union

OVERSEAS

Doctor who examined Steve Biko admits in Pretoria court: 'It's obvious we missed something'

From Marcel Berlins
Pretoria, Nov 22

Dr Ivor Lang, one of the doctors who examined Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader, shortly before his death in prison, admitted in court today: "It's obvious we missed something."

Dr Lang, District Surgeon of Port Elizabeth, said that he had been very surprised to hear of Mr Biko's death, and "absolutely shocked". He was being cross-examined by Mr Sydney Kentridge, counsel for the Biko family, on the seventh day of the inquest into Mr Biko's death on September 12, a week after being detained by the police.

Dr Lang was shown photographs of Mr Biko's face taken after his death, showing a very prominent scab. According to medical evidence, the wound was between four and eight days old.

Dr Lang admitted that he had not seen the wound, despite having seen Mr Biko four days in succession from September 7 to 10, and having examined him "carefully", including his head. Pressed by Mr Kentridge as to how it was possible for him to have missed the wound, and another prominent swelling on his face, Dr Lang replied: "I cannot give an explanation."

Dr Lang said that if Mr Biko had been an ordinary patient, it was inconceivable that he would have been sent over 700 miles for treatment (to Pretoria). It had worried him but he could do nothing about it as it had been the decision of Colonel Goosen of the security branch.

"I am a general practitioner. I have my limits and I know my limitations. Had I been permitted, I would have transferred him to the care of specialists with more knowledge than I have."

He agreed that it was the only time in his career as District Surgeon that he had allowed his medical advice to be overruled by the authorities.

Mr Kentridge suggested to Dr Lang that if he had been faced with anyone but the special branch he would have insisted that Mr Biko went to hospital. "I would have dealt with him just like any other patient," Dr Lang replied.

Mr R. P. Van Rooyen, counsel for the police, cross-examined Dr Lang at length about the occasions he had come into contact with Colonel Goosen, the district security police chief, in the period September 7 to 10.

Dr Lang had seen Mr Biko during Monday's hearing. Dr Lang had told the court that he had written out a "highly incorrect" medical certificate at the request of Colonel Goosen, saying he could find no evidence of abnormality or pathology on Mr Biko, when in fact he had noticed a number of such abnormalities.

He also said that Colonel Goosen had refused his medical advice to allow Mr Biko to be taken to a local hospital, because he was a security risk. Instead, he was driven 750 miles by Land-Rover to Pretoria, where he died.

Mr Van Rooyen's cross-examination was aimed mainly at trying to establish that Colonel Goosen had shown proper concern for Mr Biko's health, and that if he had not taken Mr Biko's symptoms as seriously as he should have, the fault lay with the doctors, who had themselves been able to find little wrong with him in the four-day period from September 7.

Dr Lang accepted that Colonel Goosen could have been under the impression that three doctors who had examined Mr Biko thought that he was shamming. Discussions between himself and Dr C. Hersch, a specialist physician, on the possibility that Mr Biko was shamming had taken place in the presence of Colonel Goosen.

Dr Lang accepted that apart from the existence of one indication to the contrary (an exten-

sor planter reflex of the left foot) he when the toe turns up instead of down after the sole of the foot is scratched) he was also of the view that Mr Biko was malingering.

Mr Van Rooyen argued that at no stage on September 7, 8 or 9 had there been any suggestion made to Colonel Goosen by any of the doctors who examined Mr Biko that there was anything organically wrong with him. Therefore, any discussion on Mr Biko's possible removal to hospital could have been only for diagnostic, not treatment purposes.

If Colonel Goosen believed that Mr Biko was malingering, he would have found confirmation of it in the failure of the doctors to find anything wrong, Mr Van Rooyen suggested.

Dr Benjamin Tucker, the Chief District Surgeon of Port Elizabeth, said in evidence that he had examined Mr Biko on September 8, at Dr Lang's request.

Mr Biko was rational but answered questions in an indirect manner, Dr Tucker said in his affidavit, which he read to the court. He thought this might have been due to a swelling of his upper lip.

Mr Biko had complained that he could not move his left limbs properly. He managed to stand up with assistance, though with difficulty in using his left leg. On September 11, Dr Tucker saw Mr Biko again. He was apathetic, uncooperative and hyperventilating. Fine froth was present about his lips. He thought it in Mr Biko's best interests for him to be admitted to hospital where he would be observed by trained staff. Subsequently, Colonel Goosen had advised him that Mr Biko was to be taken to the prison hospital in Pretoria.

Dr Tucker said that Mr Biko had not complained to him of being assaulted or injured while in detention. (Dr Lang had previously made a similar statement.)

Steve Biko's quest, page 20

Anger over Kruger remark about Jews

From Ray Kennedy,
Johannesburg, Nov 22

Mr James Kruger, the South African Minister of Justice, on whose orders Mr Steve Biko, the black activist, was detained, was today in the centre of a dispute over disparaging remarks he is said to have made over English-speaking South Africans and Jews.

According to *The Star*, the

Johannesburg newspaper, Mr Kruger had said that he will only accept English-speaking South Africans as "part of my country" when they identify totally with Afrikanerdom.

Of the Jewish population, which is a significant sector of South Africa's white population and largely anti-Government, Mr Kruger is alleged to have said it was a characteristic of the Jewish people living outside

Israel that they "run away from other places and the whole kaput".

The inference, in the newspaper report, was that Mr Kruger was referring to the growing migration of skilled whites, many of them doctors, since unrest erupted in Soweto 18 months ago. Medicine is a largely Jewish-dominated profession in South Africa.

Famous 2,400-year-old Greek bridge located

From Mario Modiano
Amphipolis, Nov 22

An elaborate wooden structure that once supported the classical bridge over the river Strymon at Amphipolis has been discovered by a Greek archaeologist while excavating the well-preserved long walls of this ancient city of northern Greece.

Dr Demetrios Lazarides, former Inspector-General of Greek Antiquities, said he had discovered more than 1,200 tree-trunks and stakes spiked into the sandy river bank to serve mainly as a support for the Strymon bridge.

He said: "We have never found in Greece such a vast quantity of wood that had survived for 2,500 years. It was preserved because of humidity."

Most of the stakes have now been sheathed in plaster to preserve them from disintegrating. The best pieces were moved to the archaeological museum of Kavala to undergo treatment by conservation experts.

Amphipolis, situated at a strategic point on the old road from Greece to the Hellespont, was captured by Athens in 437 BC and held as a colony. By controlling the famous Strymon bridge, the Athenians were also able to command the gold mines of Mount Pangaea.

During the Peloponnesian War, the colony became a bone of contention between Athens and Sparta and it was near the Strymon bridge that General Brasidas of Sparta and Cleon of Athens were killed during the epic battle of Amphipolis in 422 BC.

Dr Lazarides showed me a cluster of about 220 tree-trunks and stakes between three and 10 centimetres wide, sunk into ground between the fortifica-



These tree-trunks, rammed into the river bank in about 425 BC, carried the strategic bridge across the Strymon for many centuries. The river is in the background.

tions and the river bank. He said: "I am sure that these were the piles of the classical bridge on the east bank."

Unfortunately dredgers, used several decades ago to make the river navigable, must have destroyed the piles on the west bank about 30 metres across the water. "All we found there was a few lead brackets such as were used to hold the piles together," he said.

The bridge support was found in line with one of the main gates of the powerful fortification walls that protected Amphipolis on the side of the river. Until now it had

been assumed that the city had walls only on one side.

"We have now established," Dr Lazarides explained, "that

the long walls of Amphipolis ran 7,450 metres and were even longer than the long walls of Thermopylae in Athens." This discovery will force a revision of the prevailing archaeological opinion about the defences of Amphipolis, he added.

The bridge was probably built about 425 BC, considering the multitude of sherds of black-painted Attic pottery that was found there. "It must have been in use for very long," Dr Lazarides said, "because we found hundreds of coins of all periods from the classical to the Byzantine."

Mrs Sakharov must return home from Italy

Rome, Nov 22.—The Soviet authorities have told Mrs Yelena Sakharov, wife of Dr Sakharov, the human rights campaigner, to return to Moscow by tomorrow, according to her daughter. She has been in Rome since September for eye surgery.

Her daughter, Mrs Tatyana Yankelovich, said today: "My mother is in a bad condition. She needs to stay here but the Soviet Consul has told her to go home tomorrow at the latest."

An application for her Soviet exit visa to be extended had been refused, Mrs Yankelovich said. Professor Renato Fresson, the eye specialist who has operated on Mrs Sakharov for glaucoma of both eyes in the past two years, said she needed two more months of treatment in Italy.

Her mother planned to ask for a new exit visa on her return tomorrow, the daughter said.—Reuter.

Black Panther death book was really work of FBI

From Patrick Brown
Washington, Nov 22

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has released more than 50,000 documents on its secret counter-intelligence programme known as "cointelpro", covering a 15-year period up until 1971. The papers give details of operations against the Ku Klux Klan, the Black Panthers and other extremist black groups, the Communist Party, the Socialist Workers' Party and a variety of more or less subversive organisations.

There do not appear to be any new sensations. The worst excesses of Cointelpro were disclosed by the Church committee of intelligence matters in 1975. The most dramatic of all were efforts to discredit Dr Martin Luther King and drive him to suicide.

The papers were released under the Freedom of Information Act and were published with great reluctance. The FBI claimed its right to withhold some documents, said to be

about 20 per cent of its archive on Cointelpro, but under the Act it can be taken to court to defend its continued censorship and the judge would decide how much it can permanently conceal.

The papers released so far show that in 1967 the FBI, which had thoroughly infiltrated the Ku Klux Klan, thought of depositing its Imperial Wizard and putting an informant in his place. The idea was rejected.

The Communist Party was thoroughly infiltrated (the fact has been known, and considered a capital joke, for at least 20 years).

In the late 1960s the bureau produced a "Black Panther colouring book", which showed black children enthusiastically killing white policemen. A senate committee investigated the matter and much adverse publicity accrued to the Panthers, who rightly denied all knowledge of the book.

Mr Vorster pledges 'fight to the last man'

From Nicholas Ashford
Pretoria, Nov 22

English and Afrikaans speakers would defend South Africa to "the last man" against any communist attempt to take over the southern tip of Africa, Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, told an election meeting here tonight.

To loud applause he said South Africa would not only do this for its own sake but also for "the sake of the free world and Christianity."

South Africa was Europe's lifeline. Ships carrying thousands of Europe's oil needs and much of its food passed via the Cape. The country also possessed minerals, which, if they fell into communist hands, would give Russia a monopoly.

About the United Nations arms embargo, he said the weapons needed to fight in Africa were already being manufactured by South Africa. The arms being denied were those needed to fight a communist invasion. The embargo was part of Russia's strategy to gain control of southern Africa.

South Africa had already taken precautions against possible future embargoes by stockpiling strategic materials, including oil.

Pietermaritzburg is the heart of English-speaking South Africa, and much of Vorster's speech was aimed at wooing English speakers away from the opposition parties and into the ranks of the ruling National Party.

Speaking mainly in English, he said he had dedicated himself to improving relations between English and Afrikaans speakers. He criticized the English-language press for "trying to drive a wedge" between the two groups.

His speech was frequently punctuated by applause but also by a number of hecklers. At one stage a woman put a black shawl over her head and gave a black power salute.

Mr Vorster made it clear there was to be no softening on race issues. One-man-one-vote as out, except within the political institutions of the different race groups. His party could maintain separate residential areas, and as against integration in schools.

Tanzanian reshuffle

Dar es Salaam, Nov 22.—

President Nyerere has dismissed 17 district party secretaries, who serve as area commissioners, appointed 19 new ones and transferred others.

OVERSEAS

Australian poll hinges on new party

No goodies or baddies for the Chippocrats

From Douglas Aiton Melbourne, Nov 22

With less than three weeks to go in the election, the Labour Party steadily closing the gap on the Government, the main regret of Mr Malcolm Fraser, must be his treatment, soon after he was elected Prime Minister two years ago, of Mr Don Chipp.

Despite Mr Chipp's good record with the Liberal Party—he had been a minister under Mr Gorton and Mr McMahon—Mr Fraser considered him too progressive for the new conservative face of the Liberal Party and dropped him.

Deeply hurt and apparently politically destroyed, Mr Chipp smouldered dependently on the back benches for a month or two before suddenly launching the Australian Democrats, a new centre party without detailed platform has still not been announced.

Treated at first with scepticism, it now seems likely that the Australian Democrats could decide the election through the distribution of their voters' preferences and might also hold the balance of power in the Senate.

The growth in their support is a remarkable event in recent Australian political history and most of the credit for this must go to Mr Chipp.

His personal popularity, the ailing Australia Party, seemed to appeal only to the extreme avant-garde. It is Mr Chipp's personal impetus which has captured the imagination of a large slice of disenchanted Australia to quickly form a party has hardly any funds, no platform, no well-known names except that of Mr Chipp, and yet its influence is growing.

The first test was the South Australian election in September, when the Democrats took about 11 per cent of the vote in the seats they contested. That was only the start.

Three weeks ago in an important Victorian by-election, they attracted an astonishing 18 per cent of the vote from which it was clear that people were taking them seriously. In the following election in Queensland—the most conservative state in Australia—the Democrats could afford to contest only a handful of seats, and yet managed an average of 12 per cent.

Perhaps the most appealing



Mr Chipp: Bouncing back after being dropped.

aspect of the Democrats is their lack of goodies and baddies approach, a style more geared to reason than a pure black and white debate. Mr Chipp has tried hard to create an attitude where there will be a more intelligent approach than simply the unions versus big business.

He believes, quite possibly rightly, that Australians are weary of the predictable finger-pointing of these two groups, a dining battle that after both Labour and Liberal governments has not solved the increasing economic problems.

Mr Chipp presents a rugged, easy-going facade, and speaks in refreshing if sometimes meaningless terms. For instance, when it is suggested that he might hold the balance of power in the Senate, he gently reminds you that he prefers to call it the balance of reason.

One saving grace for the Government is that the "Chippocrats", as they have become known, have adopted the new policy of not directing their supporters about how to cast their preferences.

Nevertheless, it seems that as many as 70 per cent will give Labour as their second choice, which could conceivably win Labour the election.

The Democrats are not expected at this stage to win any seats in the House of Representatives but if support known in Australia—the Democrats could afford to contest only a handful of seats, and yet managed an average of 12 per cent.

Olympian swears loyalty to a breakfast cereal

From Our Own Correspondent New York, Nov 22

A legal action brought by the district attorney of San Francisco, through his consumer fraud department, carries dire implications for television advertisers. They might have to prove conclusively that the notable people who endorse their products actually use them.

The attorney, Mr Joe Freitas, has accused General Mills, a leading manufacturer of breakfast cereals, of false advertising. The claim arises from an advertisement which shows Bruce Jenner, the American athlete who won the gold medal for the decathlon at the Montreal Olympics, saying how much he owes to Wheaties, a long-established best-selling cereal advertised as "The breakfast of champions".

Mr Freitas claims that the advertisement implies that Wheaties were a vital part of Mr Jenner's diet while he was

training for the Olympics. He wants, but has not yet received, an affidavit from Mr Jenner to the effect that he did eat significant quantities of the cereal during the relevant period, together with affidavits from witnesses who saw him doing so.

Mr Jenner called a press conference yesterday and waxed indignant about the allegation that his word was not to be trusted. "I don't like people thinking I am not telling the truth," he said.

He gave details which lent support to the notion of a near-addiction to Wheaties. He eats them, he said, with milk and banana slices on top. If he is feeling specially ravenous, he will sometimes down a streak for breakfast as well.

In the advertisement, Mr Jenner maintains that "Wheaties have been on my breakfast table since I was a kid." At his press conference, he said ruefully that he wished he had saved the packet tops.

Australia likely to restrict refugees' entry

Sydney, Nov 22—Mr Michael Mackellar, the Immigration Minister, hinted today that Australia would tighten its policy on letting in refugees from Indo-China.

He told a meeting of the International Affairs Institute that no country could afford to give the impression that any group could come in and stay.

He said that six small fishing vessels with 218 Vietnamese refugees on board had sailed into Darwin in the past 24 hours. More than 670 had reached Australia by sea since the end of the Vietnam War two and a half years ago, he added.—Reuters.

Policemen to be disciplined for Hongkong attack

Hongkong, Nov 22—Eleven police officers will be disciplined and one man prosecuted, in connexion with an attack on the headquarters of Hongkong's Independent Commission against Corruption last month, a Government spokesman said today.

About 40 people, believed to include off-duty police officers, attacked the offices after a protest march by about 2,000 policemen to police headquarters on October 28. Five people in the commission offices were slightly injured.

The man to be prosecuted for unlawful assembly and assault was not named. The spokesman said: "Further investigations are continuing in an attempt to identify any other participants."—Reuters.

Spassky's accuracy forces draw from Korchnoi

Belgrade, Nov 22—Viktor Korchnoi and Boris Spassky today drew the first game of their final candidates' match to choose a challenger for Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion.

Korchnoi, the Russian grand master who defected to the West last year, appeared to have winning chances when the game was adjourned last night. But when Spassky's sealed forty-first move was opened to the best possible, the Soviet former world champion played precisely in the continuation and Korchnoi's advantage quickly disappeared.

After 32 moves Korchnoi offered a draw which was immediately accepted. The second game will be played tomorrow.

White	Black	Spassky	English
1. P-O4	1. P-O4	1. P-O4	1. P-O4
2. P-B3	2. P-B3	2. P-B3	2. P-B3
3. P-K3	3. P-K3	3. P-K3	3. P-K3
4. P-Q4	4. P-Q4	4. P-Q4	4. P-Q4
5. P-N3	5. P-N3	5. P-N3	5. P-N3
6. P-B4	6. P-B4	6. P-B4	6. P-B4
7. P-K4	7. P-K4	7. P-K4	7. P-K4
8. P-Q5	8. P-Q5	8. P-Q5	8. P-Q5
9. P-N4	9. P-N4	9. P-N4	9. P-N4
10. P-B5	10. P-B5	10. P-B5	10. P-B5
11. P-K5	11. P-K5	11. P-K5	11. P-K5
12. P-Q6	12. P-Q6	12. P-Q6	12. P-Q6
13. P-N5	13. P-N5	13. P-N5	13. P-N5
14. P-B6	14. P-B6	14. P-B6	14. P-B6
15. P-K6	15. P-K6	15. P-K6	15. P-K6
16. P-Q7	16. P-Q7	16. P-Q7	16. P-Q7
17. P-N6	17. P-N6	17. P-N6	17. P-N6
18. P-B7	18. P-B7	18. P-B7	18. P-B7
19. P-K7	19. P-K7	19. P-K7	19. P-K7
20. P-Q8	20. P-Q8	20. P-Q8	20. P-Q8
21. P-N7	21. P-N7	21. P-N7	21. P-N7
22. P-B8	22. P-B8	22. P-B8	22. P-B8
23. P-K8	23. P-K8	23. P-K8	23. P-K8
24. P-Q9	24. P-Q9	24. P-Q9	24. P-Q9
25. P-N8	25. P-N8	25. P-N8	25. P-N8
26. P-B9	26. P-B9	26. P-B9	26. P-B9
27. P-K9	27. P-K9	27. P-K9	27. P-K9
28. P-Q10	28. P-Q10	28. P-Q10	28. P-Q10
29. P-N9	29. P-N9	29. P-N9	29. P-N9
30. P-B10	30. P-B10	30. P-B10	30. P-B10
31. P-K10	31. P-K10	31. P-K10	31. P-K10
32. P-Q11	32. P-Q11	32. P-Q11	32. P-Q11
33. P-N10	33. P-N10	33. P-N10	33. P-N10
34. P-B11	34. P-B11	34. P-B11	34. P-B11
35. P-K11	35. P-K11	35. P-K11	35. P-K11
36. P-Q12	36. P-Q12	36. P-Q12	36. P-Q12
37. P-N11	37. P-N11	37. P-N11	37. P-N11
38. P-B12	38. P-B12	38. P-B12	38. P-B12
39. P-K12	39. P-K12	39. P-K12	39. P-K12
40. P-Q13	40. P-Q13	40. P-Q13	40. P-Q13
41. P-N12	41. P-N12	41. P-N12	41. P-N12
42. P-B13	42. P-B13	42. P-B13	42. P-B13
43. P-K13	43. P-K13	43. P-K13	43. P-K13
44. P-Q14	44. P-Q14	44. P-Q14	44. P-Q14
45. P-N13	45. P-N13	45. P-N13	45. P-N13
46. P-B14	46. P-B14	46. P-B14	46. P-B14
47. P-K14	47. P-K14	47. P-K14	47. P-K14
48. P-Q15	48. P-Q15	48. P-Q15	48. P-Q15
49. P-N14	49. P-N14	49. P-N14	49. P-N14
50. P-B15	50. P-B15	50. P-B15	50. P-B15
51. P-K15	51. P-K15	51. P-K15	51. P-K15
52. P-Q16	52. P-Q16	52. P-Q16	52. P-Q16
53. P-N15	53. P-N15	53. P-N15	53. P-N15
54. P-B16	54. P-B16	54. P-B16	54. P-B16
55. P-K16	55. P-K16	55. P-K16	55. P-K16
56. P-Q17	56. P-Q17	56. P-Q17	56. P-Q17
57. P-N16	57. P-N16	57. P-N16	57. P-N16
58. P-B17	58. P-B17	58. P-B17	58. P-B17
59. P-K17	59. P-K17	59. P-K17	59. P-K17
60. P-Q18	60. P-Q18	60. P-Q18	60. P-Q18
61. P-N17	61. P-N17	61. P-N17	61. P-N17
62. P-B18	62. P-B18	62. P-B18	62. P-B18
63. P-K18	63. P-K18	63. P-K18	63. P-K18
64. P-Q19	64. P-Q19	64. P-Q19	64. P-Q19
65. P-N18	65. P-N18	65. P-N18	65. P-N18
66. P-B19	66. P-B19	66. P-B19	66. P-B19
67. P-K19	67. P-K19	67. P-K19	67. P-K19
68. P-Q20	68. P-Q20	68. P-Q20	68. P-Q20
69. P-N19	69. P-N19	69. P-N19	69. P-N19
70. P-B20	70. P-B20	70. P-B20	70. P-B20
71. P-K20	71. P-K20	71. P-K20	71. P-K20
72. P-Q21	72. P-Q21	72. P-Q21	72. P-Q21
73. P-N20	73. P-N20	73. P-N20	73. P-N20
74. P-B21	74. P-B21	74. P-B21	74. P-B21
75. P-K21	75. P-K21	75. P-K21	75. P-K21
76. P-Q22	76. P-Q22	76. P-Q22	76. P-Q22
77. P-N21	77. P-N21	77. P-N21	77. P-N21
78. P-B22	78. P-B22	78. P-B22	78. P-B22
79. P-K22	79. P-K22	79. P-K22	79. P-K22
80. P-Q23	80. P-Q23	80. P-Q23	80. P-Q23
81. P-N22	81. P-N22	81. P-N22	81. P-N22
82. P-B23	82. P-B23	82. P-B23	82. P-B23
83. P-K23	83. P-K23	83. P-K23	83. P-K23
84. P-Q24	84. P-Q24	84. P-Q24	84. P-Q24
85. P-N23	85. P-N23	85. P-N23	85. P-N23
86. P-B24	86. P-B24	86. P-B24	86. P-B24
87. P-K24	87. P-K24	87. P-K24	87. P-K24
88. P-Q25	88. P-Q25	88. P-Q25	88. P-Q25
89. P-N24	89. P-N24	89. P-N24	89. P-N24
90. P-B25	90. P-B25	90. P-B25	90. P-B25
91. P-K25	91. P-K25	91. P-K25	91. P-K25
92. P-Q26	92. P-Q26	92. P-Q26	92. P-Q26
93. P-N25	93. P-N25	93. P-N25	93. P-N25
94. P-B26	94. P-B26	94. P-B26	94. P-B26
95. P-K26	95. P-K26	95. P-K26	95. P-K26
96. P-Q27	96. P-Q27	96. P-Q27	96. P-Q27
97. P-N26	97. P-N26	97. P-N26	97. P-N26
98. P-B27	98. P-B27	98. P-B27	98. P-B27
99. P-K27	99. P-K27	99. P-K27	99. P-K27
100. P-Q28	100. P-Q28	100. P-Q28	100. P-Q28

draw scored—UPI and AP.

Law Report November 22 1977

One act enough to constitute fraudulent trading

In re Gerald Cooper Chemicals Ltd

Before Mr Justice Templeman

One transaction if it can properly be described as a fraud on a creditor can, for the purposes of section 322 of the Companies Act 1948, constitute the carrying on of business with intent to defraud creditors.

Mr Justice Templeman so held in a reserved judgment in which he rejected the submission that the points of claim made by Harrison (London) Ltd, creditors of Gerald Cooper Chemicals Ltd, now in liquidation, that the business of the company was carried on with intent to defraud creditors, disclosed no cause of action.

His Lordship also held that a creditor was entitled to carry on a business with intent to defraud creditors if he accepted money knowing that it had been procured with intent to defraud creditors.

Section 322(1) reads: "If in the course of the winding up of a company it appears that any business of the company has been carried on with intent to defraud creditors of the company or any creditor or contributory of the company, the liquidator may... declare that any persons who were knowingly parties to the carrying on of the business in manner aforesaid shall be personally responsible, without any limitation of liability, for all the debts or liabilities of the company as if they were creditors of the company."

Mr Evans Lombe, QC, and Mr D. J. Richardson, for the applicants, Harrison (London) Ltd; Mr Evans Lombe for the respondents, Mr W. H. Jones, Alexander, Helme, and Jimlou Ltd, and Gerald Cooper Chemicals Ltd, were creditors of the respondents.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the respondents were creditors of the respondents.

THE COURT OF APPEAL

Directors' powers not ousted by receiver

Newhart Developments Ltd v Co-operative Commercial Bank Ltd

Before Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Goff

[Judgment delivered Nov 15]

Where the receiver of a company appointed under a debenture decides in his discretion not to pursue or enforce the debenture holders' claim for a return of the assets of the company, the directors are not thereby prevented from pursuing their claim on behalf of the company or its creditors, nor do they need the consent of the receiver to do so.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Newhart Developments Ltd from a decision of Mr Justice Goff, who had ordered the directors to pay damages for breach of contract on the ground that they had been issued without the consent of the receiver. The bank was the debenture holder under which they had appointed the receiver.

Mr David Stebbings for Newhart; Mr Oliver Wilkinson for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE SHAW said that there had been a scheme for a housing development in North Wales to be carried out by a specially formed company owned jointly by Newhart and the bank and financed by the bank.

The scheme had run into difficulties and a receiver of Newhart and a receiver of the bank had been appointed by the bank under a debenture in common form. Clause 2(c) provided that...

...the company shall not deal with its book or other debt or securities for money otherwise than by getting in and realizing the sum of the ordinary business of the company. Clause 5 provided that...

...[The] receiver shall have power (a) to take possession and collect and get in the property charged by this debenture and for that purpose to take any proceedings in the name of the company or otherwise.

It had appeared to Newhart that they had an opportunity of launching a claim for breach of contract against the bank arising out of the development scheme. They had issued a writ, which the bank had applied to have set aside on the ground that it had been issued without the receiver's consent.

What was the function of a receiver? It was not the same as a liquidator appointed to wind up. There were powers of the directors ceased by statute. A receiver was there to protect the interests of debenture holders. He could bring actions in the name of the company by the terms of the debenture. That did not divest the directors of their powers as the governing body of the company where their actions did not impinge prejudicially on the debenture holders by themselves, assets which were the subject of the charge.

If in his discretion he ignored an asset, or a right of action, there had been no authority cited that it was not all right for the directors to pursue it. It was incumbent on them to do so. There might be other creditors entitled to expect that there would be a fund to pay them the receiver was in a curious and unenviable position in that the action was against the very people who had appointed him. It was therefore presented with a great conflict of interest.

If and when the judgment came to fruition, the money would be of interest to the receiver, but if he did not decide to pursue the action there was nothing that prevented the company from seeking to enforce judgment, provided that nothing in the course of proceedings was going to influence the security of the debenture holders. The appeal should be allowed.

Judgment reserved

Davis v Johnson

The five-member Court of Appeal especially convened to consider the scope and construction of the Domestic Violence and Matrimonial Proceedings Act, 1976, reserved their judgments. Their Lordships hope to give them at an early date.

Chancery Division

Redundancy bonuses discriminatory

MacGregor Wallcoverings Ltd v Turton

Before Mr Justice Phillips, Mrs D. Ewing and Mr W. S. Sirs

An employer's age gratuity scheme which gave employees over 60 an additional 10 weeks' pay if dismissed for redundancy was found to contravene the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act, 1975, since women, who were compulsorily retired at 60, were deprived of the benefit of the additional payment.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal by a majority, Mr Justice Phillips dissenting, dismissed an appeal by the employers, MacGregor Wallcoverings Ltd, from a decision of an industrial tribunal at Newcastle upon Tyne last April, that they had discriminated against Mrs Ivy Turton on the ground of her sex.

Section 1 of the Act provides: "It is unlawful for a person to discriminate against a woman... if... (b) he applies to her a requirement or condition which he applied or would apply equally to a man but which is to her detriment because she cannot comply with it." By section 6(2) "It is unlawful for a person... (a) in the way he affords her access to opportunities for... any other benefits."

Mr Anthony Mallen for the employers; Mr Peter Sussman for Mrs Turton.

Mr Justice Phillips, reading the judgment of the Appeal Tribunal, said that the employers operated a redundancy scheme in accordance with a memorandum one clause of which provided that employees over 60 would receive an additional 10 weeks' pay. Mrs Turton, then 57, was dismissed on the ground of redundancy. Her complaint arose because she could not be employed after the age of 60.

Guasto v Robinsons of Winchester Ltd and Another

Mr Justice Nield awarded the plaintiff, Mr Giuseppe Guasto, a nursery worker, aged 30, £30,888 damages against the defendants, Robinsons of Winchester Ltd and their employee, Mr Anthony Norman Farnell, for personal injuries suffered as a result of an accident caused by Mr Farnell's negligence. Of the award £11,000 was in respect of a 50 per cent loss of sexual function.

HIS LORDSHIP said that an iron saw, as Mr Guasto's place of work, which had previously been damaged by a lorry driven by Mr Farnell, fell on him, injuring his leg, which had to be amputated, and his back, which, on the medical evidence, reduced his sexual function by 50 per cent. The loss of sexual function was most grave. His chances of marriage were slender; he could never have children; family life was denied to him.

In *Horn v John Lad & Son Ltd* (Bar Library Transcript No 204A 1973 CA), where the plaintiff had become sexually impotent but had retained his sexual desire, Lord Justice Davies said: "We have really to struggle in the dark, in the absence of any helpful authority, to reach the appropriate figure in this case." Mr Justice Cleave, at first instance, had awarded the plaintiff £5,500 general damages. The Court of Appeal increased the award to £11,000. If his Lordship was not guided by the Court of Appeal in that decision, he would have awarded a much greater sum for the loss of sexual function.

In addition to the £11,000, Mr Guasto was awarded £19,888 special damages: £17,000 for loss of a leg and weakness of a foot; and £2,888 for loss of chances of employment if thrown onto the labour market.

Employment Appeal Tribunal

50—women being retired at 60 and men at 65—she would never be able to qualify for the 10 weeks' additional pay.

A preliminary question had arisen as to whether the scheme was contractual or voluntary. If the employees had a contractual right to receive payment the claim would have to be brought under the Equal Pay Act, 1970. The Appeal Tribunal accepted the industrial tribunal's finding that the employees were not contractually entitled to receive the payments.

The imposition of different retiring ages for men and women amounted to direct discrimination within section 1(1)(a) of the Sex Discrimination Act. But such discrimination was not unlawful because section 6(2) which made discrimination unlawful, did not apply to "provision in relation to death or retirement": section 6(4).

Mrs Turton could not have complained of unlawful discrimination on the basis that she, unlike a man, would have to retire at 60. Her case was that there was an additional discrimination in that the employers had instituted a scheme which unfairly favoured those who were lucky enough to work after the age of 60 and had discriminated against those who had to retire before 60.

That approach appealed to Mrs Ewing and Mr Sirs, and they supported the industrial tribunal's decision. His Lordship disagreed.

One difficulty in applying the 1975 Act was that, given a set of facts, it was necessary to analyse them for the purposes of answering the questions posed by section 1(1)(b) in order to determine whether there was a case of indirect discrimination. The answer depended on how the analysis was made and it was often possible to analyse the facts in different ways. The essential question was to determine what was the "requirement or condition" which was applied. The industrial tribunal had not expressly done that.

Mr Sussman, for Mrs Turton, said that the "

Football

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Ipswich, who are having an unusually indifferent domestic season, need a substantial victory tonight to have any chance of overcoming such skilful players in the two-leg tie. The task of marking Cruyff will probably be allocated to Mills, the England international defender, but, as was seen at Wembley when England were so outclassed by the Dutch last February, the problem can be that the Dutchman pulls his marker

The City manager, Tony Book, denies that there has been any restrictions on Tuszart. Book said: "I have never asked him to play any differently from his normal game. He is allowed to go out and play and I have never put any pressure on him. As for him going to play abroad, he has got to make an offer first."

David McCreery, the Manchester

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

would drop out." The professionals accept this low fee as a means of putting something back into the game, the present \$3.25 an hour for a well-qualified teacher and Mr. Harvey implied that it was not a sacrifice. In fact, he saw a solution to the problem. Instead, he appealed to the deep pockets of "the business community," "the doctrinal" he said, "that the Foundation has got to work so hard to get out of." "I don't know yet we see sponsors putting up prize money for a single conference," he said, "and no budget. I am not criticizing the professionals for winning such handsome sums, but some of the money is not being put back in that way might also turn their attention to the need to ensure that the money is put to use, to finance to develop an interest in the game."

Among the Foundation's many projects is the one which began this year in the form of an electric competition for club juniors in an attempt to focus the attention of the young men played by children in the hospitals.

Lucinda Prior-Palmer, Britain's top three day event rider, has been chosen Personality of the Year for the second time in three years by the Equestrian Writers' Association.

UEFA CUP: Third round, first leg: Aston Villa v Athletic Bilbao (7.30), Ipswich Town v Barcelona (7.30).
ANGLO-SCOTTISH CUP: Final replay: Celtic v St Mirren v Bristol City (7.30).
IRISH GOLD CUP FINAL: Glenavon v Glenrithem (at Windsor Park, Belfast, 7.30).
SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Chesham v Weymouth (7.30), Grantham v Dagenham (7.30).
SCOTTISH CUP: Glasgow v Dundee (7.30).
RUGBY UNION: Aberlure v North (7.0), Cambridge University v M.R. Steer-Bodgers (9.15), Exeter v Gloucester (7.0), Gloucester v Alton v Rrugwau and Alton (7.15), Pontypool v Pontypridd (7.0).
RUGBY LEAGUE: Division Haul v Northern (7.30).

The Professional Tennis Umpires Federation founded just over a year ago, are seeking affiliation with the Lawn Tennis Umpires' Association, the official governing body which takes charge of Wimbledon and has the backing of the Lawn Tennis Association. This move was announced last night by Roy Cooper, secretary and chairman of the PTUF, who said that at last week's Benson and Hedges championships at Wembley, Mr. Cope-Lewis said: "This is a serious move and I hope the LTA will be sympathetic to our part, the application has been made in the best interests of tennis in general and umpiring services in particular."

Mr Pucker addressed the players

Gavaskar is s

Brisbane, Nov 22.—The Indian cricketers flew into Brisbane today with worries about the fitness of their opening batsman, Sunil Gavaskar, clouding their preparations for the first Test against Australia here next month. Gavaskar, the 28-year-old vice-captain, sustained a leg muscle in a match against Victoria 10 days ago and the injury has not responded to treatment.

India's captain, Bishen Bedi, had hoped Gavaskar would be available to play in the one-day match

By Peter West
Buckley Correspondent

His refreshingly old fashioned thought are published by the RFU in their breezy, new look *Rugby Post*, which they are using to disseminate news and views on club and international rugby. It will be available in future on the first day of January, March, September and November, and can be ordered direct from Twickenham. It is up to us to make a significant decision in British back play in recent years may warn to Ray French's theme: "Have our coaches never heard of players who have the ability to turn a defensive pass into an attacking one? We must serve past their opponent, or being able to beat a man with a perfectly timed pass," he asks. "The only way to succeed in back play should be to beat the man and thereby take the ball away from the pack, not run at your opponent's tumbler screaming 'I'm a scrum-half'."

Wilson, out of action for four weeks because of a fractured cheekbone, returns for Scotland against Oxford University on Saturday.

The 23-year-old Scotland and Middlesex stand-off suffered the injury against Orrell last month when Scottish fell to their only defeat in the Premiership.

In his absence Gillespie has established himself as the club's leading points scorer and the selectors retain the assumption that he will continue to be a key player, but are planning to look for a centre. To accommodate Gillespie, Bigger moves to the wing in place of Kelly.

Higginson, a Royal Marine commando, returns for London Irish at Gloucester on Saturday. Higginson, who has been on duty abroad, comes in for his first Premiership action at lock in place of Smyth.

By Peter West
The most encouraging news for

It seems however that Horner must have cut out of the back into the side. Joseph Davies by all accounts has been playing well in the centre. Having been a scrum half, Davies has seized his chance in a new position since John Robbie, the Irish international, returned on loan to control affairs at the fulcrum.

The only doubt about the Cambridge side today concerns the fitness of other centre-and scrum-half, John Foss. He got a severe knock on the thigh in his comeback game at Blackheath last week. Cambridge are expected to play against Oxford, and are thus unlikely to take any chances. Paul Frickleton, an Irish senior, stands by.

On the partnership at half back is Nigel, Breckinridge, who has

Gareth Davies, the Cardiff and Welsh B stand-off half, passed a strenuous fitness test yesterday afternoon and is almost certain to play for Oxford University against Cambridge in the University match.

Davies, who was out of action for three months with a knee injury, played his first game for Oxford University Greybouds against Richmond Vikings on Saturday without any ill effects. Yesterday he was given a work-

out at the Ifley Road ground and in a gymnasium. Afterwards Oxford's captain, Tim Bryan, said he would be in the side to play London Scottish at Ifley Road on Saturday in the last match before Twickenham.

Hansen, Saracens vice-captain last season, who left to join Blackheath, has returned to the Southgate club and plays his first game of the season away to Loughborough Colleges on Saturday. Hansen comes in for Cadle.

Hamburg, the European Cup Winners' Cup holders, played their traditional quick-passing game and Keegan and Keller went close to scoring with headers in the early stages. Liverpool, the reigning European champions, built up their attacks gradually and contented themselves with shots from outside the penalty area, most of them well off target.

ditions and roared back through the field.

When Brookies had completed the high-speed section of the day at Cokesburg, he was only 27sec behind Mikkola and a further 43 seconds adrift of Walden.

The fourth-placed Andy Dawson said of his friend and rival Brookies:

"Brookies is trying too hard. I am sure he will be a winner because it is safer." Dawson's comment was - significant because Brookies has only finished twice in the 1000cc class in his winning event - most have ended in spectacular high-speed crashes.

Brookies' nearest challenger, put his Fiat Arbut in fifth place, but the Ford Escort of Roger Clarke was only 25sec behind him.

Walden was a victim of the victory and retain the title he

Packer pitches

Melbourne, Nov. 22.—John Malley, who has been preparing the unique hothouse pitches for the opening trial matches of the Kerry Packer cricket series, said today he was unhappy with their quality. Mr. Malley said that the last time he visited the hothouse the pitch since it was moved by cranes from a greenhouse to the corner of Victoria Park and the MCG, was "a little better than the wicket" at the MCG. "I was disappointed," he said, "because the wicket slower than he had hoped."

"The players say it is fine but I'm not really happy with it because it's a little bit too dry," he said. "The weather here has left a lot of moisture in it," Mr. Malley said. Malley, 54, said he would be back in Melbourne on Saturday night, but slow bowlers for the match starting on Thursday between the Australians and a world

world teams for the six matches to be played in Australia over the next three months.

But Mr Masley, said that the horseshoe pitch would be in perfect condition for the first match between the Australians and the West Indians starting in Melbourne on December 2. "The extra time we make allows the difference," he said.

The pitch is said to be normal except for a rarely discernible line in the middle which marks where the 11 yard-long tubs meet. With only one day left before the opening match the 33 players from the West Indies, England, Pakistan, South Africa and England have gone through day-long practices to prepare for the commercial series.

Mr Packer addressed the players

Brisbane, Nov 22.—The Indian cricketers flew into Brisbane today with worries about the fitness of their opening batsman, Sunil Gavaskar, clouding their preparation for the first Test against Australia here next month. Gavaskar, the 28-year-old vice-captain, strained his leg muscle in a match against Victoria 10 days ago, and the injury has not responded to treatment.

India's captain, Bishan Bedi, had hoped Gavaskar would be available to play in the one-day match

Islamabad, Nov. 22.—The corrected Itinerary of the England cricket tour to Pakistan is:

Nov. 30 to Dec. 1, Rawalpindi v. Patrons XI; Dec. 3 to 6, Faisalabad v. United Bank XI; Dec. 8 to 10, Peshawar v. Governor's XI; Dec. 14 to 19, Lahore, First Test match; Dec. 23 to 25, Bahawalpur, one-day match; Dec. 26 to 28, Lahore, v. Habib Bank XI; Dec. 30, Sharada, one-day match; Jan. 1 to 7, Hyderabad, Second Test; Jan. 9 to 11, Bahawalpur v. Punjab XI; Jan. 10, Karachi, one-day match; Jan. 18 to 20, Karachi, Third Test.—Agence France-Press.

[illegible][illegible]

By David Nicholson-Lord

Despite public spending restrictions, more people than ever are taking part in sport, especially the "boom" activities like squash, badminton, gymnastics, rackets and the martial arts. This is one of the main conclusions of the Sports Council's annual report for 1976-77, which also shows the council's progress in spreading recreation facilities since it became an independent organization in 1972.

Progress up to the introduction of cutback was "enormous," the council chairman, Sir Rob Enoch, says in his introduction to the report. A statutory provision throughout Britain is still running at a shortfall of 60 per cent of identified needs and there are "remarkable" regional variations. But the total Government grant to the council during the past five years has tripled from £2.6m to £10.1m a year, the actual cost of the council's work in 1975 is only 30 per cent. This is in spite of fresh responsibilities assumed by the council in the areas of recreation, health, and centres of excellence and the intensification of efforts to support national teams and competitions, the report says.

It also said there can be no real increase in grant aid during

the failures identified in the alarming drop-out rate from sports school in the Western Report and bringing a "high level of performance" to the fore.

There is also the need for recreation facilities in inner city areas, and the present report calls for more of them, such as education authorities, industry and the Services to open up to the public, to add.

Although his introduction mentioned that the "other European countries under which public bodies are required to let the public use their facilities" had not done so yesterday that the council still favoured persuasion rather than new law, Mr. St. John said that he had worsened the position, he said. Many education authorities were either in the process of building new schools and colleges beyond the reach of sports clubs, or being forced to do so.

Mr. St. John also hails the recent

He added, however: "We are still concerned that sports and physical recreation do not attract the proper public interest and that they deserve and that the sound principles and policies expressed in the White Paper will be meaningless unless resources are found to implement them."

The council's priorities include a national fitness campaign to be launched in 1973. It will be the first such campaign for several decades and will stress the importance of physical fitness in style and to more regular exercise, even if it is only a "walk round the block". Walter Winterbottom, the council's director, said yesterday.

centres, without which, it says, some sports will not be able to reach or maintain world standards. A skating stadium, a cycling velodrome and a large indoor sports arena with athletics and cycling tracks were listed as priority projects in 1972, but have still not been built—despite the council's offer of 50 per cent grant aid to several local authorities.

An estimated £12m at current prices is now required to encourage local councils to provide these national facilities.

place on bull rulls out

This is scheduled on February 15 against the Montreal Olympic lightweight champion, Leon Spinks of the United States, who beat the Italian champion, Alfio Righetti, on November 16.

The rarity of outstanding European heavyweights is highlighted by the title bout at Brussels on Saturday between Jean-Claude Van Damme, the so-called Lion of Flanders, and a temporarily up-and-coming American contender, the European boxing nation, and met Alf. Coomman was badly outclassed and knocked out by Alf in the first round of their bout in Puerto Rico, in February, 1974.

He is another to have profited. All with pocket money. And the Evangelists, grieved at the dissipation visited by them, the world champion at Landover, Maryland, in May. Coorman became European champion in March when he stepped an aging Spaniard, Jose Greco, in the fourth round at Almeria. He was the vacant because the EBU had stripped Jose Bugner, his British boxer. The Belgian, lost the championship to Rodriquez in May. Coorman, at 31, is nine years older than the champion. He is smaller. Higher. And a shorter reach. Even the Belgian boxing public do not feel he deserves a title bout.

Curling
OSLO: European championships, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656

Greene Greene

-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

PRIVATE SECRETARY

£3,062-£3,745 p.a. incl.

Are you interested in working in the Computer field?

If so, then you may be interested in becoming Private Secretary to the Head of Technical Support Branch at our Computing Centre (located at 85 Park Street, London SE1) and having the opportunity to become familiar with the work of one of the largest Computer Bureaux in the country.

You should have a good educational background and be a competent shorthand or audio typist, capable of the efficient control of office routines.

The Central Electricity Generating Board is a progressive and dynamic industry and for those who want to make a satisfying career, there are plenty of opportunities for promotion and development.

Applications stating full relevant details and present salary to the Group Personnel Officer, CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU, by 30 November, 1977. Quote ref. T/237 PR.

Secretary to Personnel Director

Reed Group is the leading UK-based company in the paper and packaging field. It employs some 21,000 people in 11 operating companies in the UK and overseas.

The Personnel Director is a Board member with a heavy workload, and heads a small Headquarters team providing a full personnel service. His Secretary has a busy and varied job demanding tact, diplomacy, a flair for organisation and the handling of highly confidential information. Applicants should have a minimum of three years' experience, some at senior level in a large company, and impeccable skills of 110/50 wpm.

We have modern offices just two miles from Green Park underground and excellent benefits including a subsidised restaurant and season ticket loan.

For further details contact
Miss R. M. Beadsworth, Personnel Officer on 01-839 8363 or write to her at
Reed House,
82 Piccadilly, London W1A 1EJ.



A Reed International company

£4,500

P.A. Secretary with short-hand to provide the full range of secretarial duties for the Chairman and Financial Director of E.C.3 Insurance Brokers, age 30-40.

£4,300

Numerate secretary short-hand typist, 25+ for a young easy going Company Secretary of a Financial Organisation in E.C.4. Free lunch, 4 weeks' holiday.

£4,250

Senior Secretary, 35-45 for the Vice-President of W.I. Oil Company. Initiative and good shorthand essential.

£3,900 Neg.

Secretary shorthand typist, 21+, for Senior Manager of E.C.4 Bank. Good fringe benefits.

£3,500+

French/English secretary, 21+, with a knowledge of Spanish for P.12 Bankers. English shorthand required, excellent fringe benefits.

£4,000 Max

Senior Secretary shorthand typist, 26-40, for the easy going M.D. of E.C.3 Insurance. Administrative ability and tactful disposition essential. Own office.

SECRETARIES PLUS

283 9853

170 Blagovesta, E.C.2.

The Secretarial Consultants

PERSONNEL

We need an Assistant aged 23-38 with previous experience in personnel, preferably in industry. You should have a good educational background, accurate typing and some shorthand, the work will cover general administration of the personnel office and involvement in recruiting and welfare.

We offer a twice yearly share of profits, free life assurance, non-contingency pension scheme, subsidised meals and season ticket loan.

Salary is negotiable around £3,500 per annum. Pleasant offices, 2 stations from Victoria on the Underground.

Please apply in writing or telephone for further details to Mrs Spurr, Personnel Officer.

James Burrough Limited

Distillers of Beefeater Gin

Beefeater House, Montford Place,

Kennington Lane, London SE1 5DF

Telephone 01-735 8131

PETROCHEMICALS

£4,500

This first-class salary will be paid to the person who is prepared to work hard for two young men who have set up the new Chemical Trading Division of one of the largest Commodity Groups. If you have excellent secretarial skills, organisational ability and can travel easily to S.E.1 please ring:

Liz Bellon

SENIOR SECRETARIES

Recruitment Consultants

3-6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA

01-885 1611

P.A. WITH ADMIN. & ACCOUNTING RESPONSIBILITIES

AROUND £4,500

We are a small but growing young company and now need a resourceful Secretary to assist our young Senior Partner, and take responsibility for most of the administration and accounting functions. The work will be quite varied, and you will have the assistance of at least one other person. Your responsibilities, in addition to a small amount of secretarial work, would involve the supervision of bookkeeping, placing of advertisements and a switchboard answering machine. In addition, you will personally prepare monthly management statistics, paying invoices.

Call Esther Brown on 01-404 5701

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

Are interviewing Secretary/Linguists for the following posts:

GERMAN P.A./Secretary with good skills, fluent German and experience as Director of Latin American Department, or international firm, S.W.1. £3,500 plus bonus.

SPANISH Secretary/Translator with excellent Spanish and good skills required by Director of Latin American Department, or international firm, S.W.1. £3,500 plus bonus.

Recruitment Consultants

22 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2.

01-538 374/5

SEIFERT AND PARTNERS

located in modern offices in W.C.1 Holborn

SEK

SENIOR SECRETARY 25+

who is fully experienced in a professional office—preferably an executive—will be working for one of our partners. This position is of a senior nature and requires a person who can take responsibility and use their own initiative. He/she will be in charge of the secretarial staff and will be a junior to assist with files, etc. LV's + review after 3 months.

Salary £2,400 + bonus + LV's + review after 3 months.

Should you be seeking something more fascinating, ring Miss Leonard, 242 1644

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

01-404 5701

Top Jobs for Executive Secretaries

Middle-East

The Project Director of a large contract in IRAQ seeks a very capable and mature Secretary, probably over 30. The contract will be for at least 18 months and the usual excellent tax free income, plus free accommodation and board will be provided. Paid home-leave every 6 months (travel free). A unique opportunity for a sensible down to earth candidate.

Contact Mrs Allison 01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

01-235 9984

THE GUARDIAN

Secretary

If you are 20+, have 100 w.p.m. shorthand and 45 w.p.m. typing, and enjoy doing the occasional tabulation; are educated to at least 'O' level standard, with a knowledge of current affairs; and have the general abilities required to work for our Deputy Managing Director and two Company Secretaries, we would like to hear from you. You would work in a new building, have 5 weeks' holiday and earn a good salary.

For more information telephone Mary Collingborn on 01-278 2332 ext. 3157; or write to her at The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

SECRETARY

We are an International Partnership of Consulting Engineers and Architects based in W.1 area and wish to appoint a Secretary to assist our External Relations Co-ordinator. First-class secretarial skills and administrative ability required. Previous P.A. experience, and of working with Architects and Engineers, desirable but not essential.

Hours 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Monday to Friday; 3 weeks' holiday plus a week at Christmas; free life insurance and voluntary pension scheme. L.V.s 75p per week; profit sharing scheme. Salary negotiable. If you are interested, please apply in writing, giving details of experience to:

MAUREEN PRESTON

OVE ARUP PARTNERSHIP

13 FITZROY STREET,

LONDON W1P 6BQ

Property

Properties under £25,000

PEARSONS

EST. 1900

BOURNE VALLEY, HANTS. Delightful 2 bedroomed country cottage. Recently

CITROËN

SUBLIME

£4495.14
RIDICULOUS

Citroën CX 2000. The car with the safest, and most comfortable suspension system ever designed. VariPower steering. Power brakes. And creature comforts to the point of self-indulgence.

THE CITROËN CX 2000

Price correct at time of going to press. Price includes car tax, VAT and inertia reel belts, but excludes number plates and delivery charges. All Citroën cars have a 12 months unlimited mileage guarantee. Please enquire about our Personal Export, H.M. Forces and Diplomatic schemes and Preferential Finance scheme. Check the Yellow Pages for the name and address of your nearest dealer. Citroën Cars Ltd., Mill Street, Slough SL2 5DE. Tel: Slough 23808.

Why our social service volunteers deserve more official backing

The Wolfenden report published yesterday called for a stronger role for voluntary organizations. In this article Roger Hadley, who sat on the committee, and Stephen Hatch, its senior research officer, examine some of the report's more far-reaching conclusions.

Since the postwar attempt to establish a comprehensive system of statutory social services, successive governments have tended to ignore voluntary organizations or to give them only a walk-on part.

But the report of the Wolfenden Committee on Voluntary Organizations, published yesterday, contains ample evidence to show that instead of retreating submissively to the wings, voluntary organizations are making a large and growing contribution in identifying and meeting social needs.

The report attempts to prod central and local government into full awareness of what the voluntary sector is already doing, and challenges them to support and collaborate with it far more actively. But the underlying implications of the report are more significant than its specific recommendations, for they point towards a quiet revolution in the structure and dynamics of our social services, towards an alternative to state collectivism or the free market.

Whatever one's views about the desirability of a large-scale reversion to the free market, such a course must be preceded by the high cost of so many social services at the point of delivery. But at the same time, the limitations of a system that relies predominantly on statutory provision are becoming increasingly clear. It is right to go on concentrating development of the social services in this sector.

These doubts spring in part from growing awareness that the resources available for the

statutory social services are finite, that these services are often very expensive, and that there may sometimes be more cost-effective ways of meeting need. They are reinforced by recent evidence of diminishing productivity in the social services.

Bureaucracy easily becomes the whipping boy for all sorts of frustrations, but we would argue that the recent growth in size of so many social service organizations, and the associated strengthening of professional interest groups, does raise major problems for public control and responsiveness to the consumer—problems which will not be resolved by more of the same.

In sharper language, the current system stresses the dependence and passivity of the user or client. It obstructs the development of alternative forms of social service in the voluntary sector by allocating relatively tiny resources to it. And it reduces the opportunity of the citizen both to give service, and to exercise choice when he is seeking service.

Some of the current developments reported by the Wolfenden Committee raise the possibility of a radically different strategy. Perhaps the major growth point is in organized mutual aid: witness, for instance, the spread during the past decade of organizations for handicapped people like stroke victims and the hard of hearing, whose members consist predominantly of the handicapped themselves and their relatives.

As well as representing the consumer in pursuit of better statutory provision, such organizations provide, in the face of deprivation and often of stigma, support of a special quality obtainable from no other source.

Voluntary organizations recruiting their own workers directly are still the main vehicle for voluntary service. The Samaritans, for example, an organization of expert volunteer service, have been growing quickly throughout the past



two decades. But in recent years, and with the backing of the Government's Voluntary Services Unit, agencies like the Volunteer Centre and Community Service Volunteers and various local counterparts have been devising new ways of recruiting volunteers and new roles for them in the social services.

The full potential of these developments has still to be tested, but it does seem that there is plenty of scope for involving volunteers from outside the traditional and diminishing pool of middle class women not in employment. Since the average adult spends nearly 1,000 hours a year watching television, and

25 on voluntary work, a minor redistribution of leisure time activity could make a substantial impact.

It is part of the conventional wisdom that family and community are in decline, and that care provided informally through networks of neighbours and kin is diminishing. Undoubtedly there has been change, but there is plenty of evidence that informal systems of caring survive and remain extremely important. One of the more valuable functions of mutual aid groups is to reinforce the caring capacity of these informal networks, spreading the load and giving psychological support.

The Secretary of State's

Good Neighbour scheme represents an official attempt to reinforce informal caring but, without a more developed understanding of appropriate methods of intervention, it is more a hopeful pointer than a policy.

These then are indications of alternative directions. However, important constraints should be recognized. The voluntary sector is of its nature inconsistent in performance and uneven in coverage. A strong statutory framework will remain essential to safeguard standards and the equitable distribution of resources. Equally, support and resources will be required to help build up voluntary and informal patterns of care where they are now weak.

terms of care where they are now weak.

Nor is there yet the knowledge, or among relevant professionals sufficient sympathy to embark on a fully fledged alternative strategy. Nevertheless, it is possible to show how one might evolve.

Among professionals, particularly social workers, a change of role is needed, so as to place more emphasis on the mobilization of community support rather than the one-to-one service that typifies their work today. Among local authorities relationships with voluntary organizations are usually the product of historical accident, seldom of explicit policy.

They should be encouraged to follow the example of authorities like Islington which have embarked on a deliberate policy for community development and involvement in central government what is needed are vigorous policies based on a more pervasive awareness of the potentialities.

The voluntary services unit is a small beginning. More ambitious developments should include funding for local social development as recommended by Wolfenden, through the medium of "animators" with the job of sparking off new initiatives and backing up existing ones; experiments in combined voluntary and statutory action; substantial support for Age Concern and other voluntary organizations which have proved themselves; and policies deliberately aimed to strengthen natural communities.

It is time to challenge the assumption that the extension of statutory services is the best expression of collective endeavour in the cause of social welfare. The proper image of the social services is one of complementary co-operation.

Roger Hadley is Professor of Social Administration at Lancaster University and Stephen Hatch is Wolfenden Committee's Senior Research Officer and is now head of the Voluntary Organizations Research Unit.

Bernard Levin

Ah, so that is what they mean...

As a lifelong collector of significant conjunctions, I was delighted to find the other day, in an unobtrusive paragraph, a specimen (in excellent condition) of that rare form the Apparent Contradiction. Americans, it read, "are using the post more and more, so stamp prices will not rise as fast in coming years as previously predicted."

So, Not "but", you notice, or "however", or even the neutral "and", a full strength "so" links the fact that Americans are using the post more to the conclusion that the stamps they buy are cheaper than they might otherwise be.

The Apparent Contradiction will be apparent only to the British. Here, if we are told that more letters are being posted, we brace ourselves for the inevitable announcement of an increase in the price paid for posting them, and even for a massive campaign by the Post Office to persuade us to write fewer.

That is because of the well-

known Post Office principle that the best way of responding to an increase in the use made by the public of any of its services is to seek ways of reducing demand rather than increasing supply. The easiest way of doing that, of course, is to raise prices; the Post Office dreams of a day when the cost of a stamp will have reached infinity, and the number of customers nil; as the customers are well aware, satisfying progress towards achieving both these laudable intentions has been made in the last few years.

Now the Post Office is not alone in this attitude; if it were, would hardly bother to bring the subject up. In fact it typifies an entire range of practices and instincts in the commercial life of Britain which contrast strikingly with those of the United States and, increasingly, the rest of the world. America practises the precept that if you are in business to make money, it helps to find out what people want, and then sell it to them at a

price they can afford, and also that the lower the price the more of it they will buy, and the more money you will therefore make.

How many times have you been told in a shop in this country that you cannot have the object you are seeking, not because the shopkeeper does not like your face, or because he fears that you will ill-treat it when you have got it home, or because he is too distracted by the fact that his wife has just run off with the milkman, but because "there's no call for it"? Well, I assure you that if an American shopkeeper said that to a customer, the customer would literally be quite unable to discern any meaning in the words, and would conclude that he was being addressed in some unknown tongue.

This particular vice anglais can be seen in a particularly vivid form in restaurants of the less sophisticated kind. If the menu, for instance, includes roast beef with Brussels sprouts, and roast lamb with peas, it may take you anything up to 40 minutes to convince these in charge that you want the beef with the peas, and even at the end of that time you will as like as not be unsuccessful in your request, possibly even being told that there is no call for it.

The American attitude, when faced with an eccentric or even

hitherto unknown demand, is to seek first to understand exactly what is being asked for, and to seek next a way of providing it. I have often asked in the United States for something that was either unknown there, or was known under a name unknown to me. The response has always been to try to elicit what I am talking about, and then to find something as close to the specification as possible. In Germany, this is taken still further; if you go into a restaurant—not just a cafe, but a real restaurant—and order only a bowl of soup and a glass of wine, they will not only serve it to you without demur; it will never occur to them to think your request is in any way odd. Nor, of course is it; they are there to sell you food, and what items of food they sell you depends only and entirely on your wishes in the matter. (And I have never, to my recollection, been refused service in a restaurant or cafe in Germany, Austria, France or Italy if the door was open and the lights on, whatever the hour of the day or night. I could not count the number of times I have entered a British establishment, and been met only with a snarl of "We're closed".)

What all this amounts to, of course, is the difference between the respective attitudes to competition held in Britain and the rest of the world. It can be seen with lamped clarity in the motorcar industry; the

British driver having expressed a liking, by his purchases, for Japanese cars, large numbers of these are imported to meet the demand. It did not occur to the British manufacturers to meet their product more attractive to the customer; they simply squealed "unfair, unfair," and Mr Edmund Dell was sent to Tokyo to beg the Japanese to export fewer cars to Britain. The Japanese are a notoriously polite people, but even they must have been hard put to it to go on bowing and smiling when they wanted to do was to throw him down the stairs.

It's no good saying that Britain is the nice place it is precisely because we are not imbued with the spirit of competition and hustle and push and ambition and commercialism. In the first place, since we live in an internationally competitive world, we have to sell our goods and services competitively, and cannot now turn ourselves into a kind of Charming Leisure Country, with the good men of Didsbury, Handsworth and Claygate sitting before their semi-detached doors clad in dhurds and plying spinning-wheels. In the second place, we actually have all the worst forms of envy without any of its good effects. (Indeed, another example of what I am talking about, and that perhaps the most terrible of all, can be seen in the widespread reaction to the discovery that somebody

else has got, or is earning, more money than the discoverer. The response is not, as it would be in America, to strive to catch up and surpass the rival; it is not, as it would be if Britain were practised what the simple-lifers preached, a complete indifference; it is a sour determination to ensure that the other man is so penalized, weighted, mazed or even—in the case of trade unionists, for instance, putting in more hours of overtime than the union specifies—actually fined, that the balance will be redressed. If you want a specific example, go and read some of the comments made about Mr Don Revie when he signed his lucrative contract with the Saudi Arabian government.)

And so, so indeed—the Americans can look forward to cheaper stamps as a reward for posting more letters, while if we dared to emulate them we could expect only fewer collections and higher prices as a punishment for our temerity. It has been pointed out that if the Post Office introduced a special cut-rate postage for Christmas cards, not only would this please many people, but so many more cards would be sent that the Post Office might actually make more money than it otherwise would. But the Post Office will not heed the suggestion; and when I say "but" I mean "so".

© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977

Now Britain has decided the CAP does not fit

The longer Britain stays in the EEC the harder it becomes to find anyone in the country's food industry who has a kind word to say for the Common Agricultural Policy. It is the most comprehensive instrument used by the Community because many of its effects are the same in each member state. Yet it baffles much of the population and frightens many who earn their living by it.

Two important points are usually lost in the bitter political arguments that centre on it. First, the policy itself is incomplete, and second, this country does not yet operate it fully. Important foods like potatoes are not yet covered by the policy while this country has until New Year's Eve to adopt its food prices, and institutions to those in the rest of the Community.

The policy would be hard to understand in an undistorted state. As it now stands it has different influences on different parts of the food in which we turn make different responses to it. That makes it exceptionally hard to grasp.

The best way to picture its impact on the British food industry, without first assimilating a mass of technical detail, is to imagine what might happen if instead of a Common Agricultural Policy the Community had a Common Cultural Policy on the same scale.

Let the history syllabus of schools throughout the Community be decided by ministers meeting in Brussels, and let there be furious lobbying to influence the direction of the common syllabus. Let the European Commission make complicated recommendations about the ratio of words, pictures and white space in books to ensure that commoners are given value for money.

Let there be frequent and apparently unconnected complaints from unrelated cultural organizations about the interference of bureaucrats.

That illustrates the scale of what has happened to the British food industry. In the 1975 referendum campaign farmers and food processors joined in an aggressive pro-Market drive in which the Common Agricultural Policy was portrayed as the key to food security for a country with a weak currency and exceptional dependence on imports.

In 1976 the processors became worried and then frightened by proposals for measures issued in Brussels. This year farmers have become apprehensive, too, as the Community has appeared to threaten marketing schemes that have brought stability to British agriculture. They are also much less enthusiastic about the second enlargement of the Community by three nations, now in prospect, than they were about the first, when this country joined.

Since condemnation of the policy in Britain has taken the form of a series of attacks on particular measures, the aims of uniformity and harmonization behind it have been lost. The policy therefore suffers because it is incomplete and obscure. A third essential point about it is that because it is about the way food is costed and bought, its fate is tied to that of a Community money policy. Since no such thing operates the uniformity of EEC farm policy has had to be imposed on the separate and shifting monetary policies of nine member states.

There are now signs of an unusually united British onslaught on the excesses of the policy.

It focuses, naturally, on "mountains" and "lakes" of surplus farm produce which the Community either stores at great cost or sells at embar-

assaging low prices to non-members. The Community does not just pay for the purchase of surpluses; it pays for their storage as well. It estimates that storage of surplus butter alone will cost the Community over £100m while the price of keeping the beef "mountain" sheltered and cool is expected to exceed £100m.

The aim shared by many British reformers is to end rapid adherence to a policy of subsidizing the livelihoods of farmers in other parts of its internal economy and without taking account of the state of food markets outside the Community.

The imminent British bread price rise is a case in point. Part of it is the direct result of a Community levy to protect internal growers of wheat against competition from outside. The levy must still be paid even though the reason for buying outside this year is a shortage of the internal wheat of the type that the levy is supposed to protect.

In July two Conservative backbenchers, Mr Nick Eustace-Smith and Mr Peter Mills, who is a farmer, wrote in a policy paper: "The producer cannot be able to produce any quantity at any price. They are prepared that a limit should be set on the amount that the Community should offer to buy for storage at its full price and that a lower price should be offered for any surplus." Professor John Marsh, Professor of Economics at the University of Aberdeen, made a similar suggestion in a paper published by the Centre for Agricultural Strategy at the University of Reading. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, commented in an unusually quick and detailed reaction that the idea was similar in principle to "levers the Government exercise in the Common Agricultural Policy stocktaking exercise".

Mr Brian Hayes, Deputy Secretary in charge of farm policy in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, yesterday said the European Commission was beginning to adopt British views towards beef, which suffers from one of the most embarrassing surpluses.

Mr Hayes said that the commission had decided that "beef prices have been pitched too high in relation to pig and poultry prices, and too high for the good of the dairy sector". He said the government had helped to make the dairy enterprise too profitable. Community stocks of skim milk powder are now equivalent to more than half of the total annual consumption of all member states together.

The reformists believe that change can be made without damaging agriculture. Even British farming unions admitted in a paper issued in September that "surplus production can impose a strain on Community funds and be a cause of discredit to the Common Agricultural Policy".

Any reform of the size and positioning of EEC prices will happen at the same time as complicated changes in the way in which the prices are worked out. Brussels prices are expressed in units of account to preserve the fiction that farmers in each member state receive the same price. The units are then translated into national currencies and the rate at which that is done is the "green" rate for each country.

Britain wants to make change in pricing a condition for change in money, a position that is opposed elsewhere in the Community. If either the money or the pricing is changed with the other and exasperated governments turn their backs on the common ideal in agriculture to adjust internal anomalies that arise from it, the whole Community will face a new threat of dislocation.

Farming is an area in which the EEC can make one of its strongest claims to be a Community. If those who conduct the inevitable reforms of its farm policy stumble, it may be difficult to justify considering itself a common market.

Hugh Clayton

HERMÈS
155 New Bond Street
London W1
Telephone 01-499 8856

"Wolfenden"
Mid-cut from
Borsos Lamb



Exclusively designed
and made for by
BIRGER
CHRISTENSEN

155 New Bond St
London W1
Tel 499 8856

The play's the thing in the house of cards

Small wonder foreigners think we are such an endearingly eccentric lot. To declare their new play, the Kennedy pack, officially open yesterday, Stanley Gibbons engaged the services of a man who confessed that he was a complete ignoramus on the subject of cards, and that his experience of using them was limited to making up a four at bridge.

Still, Arthur Negus knows all there is to know about old things and, as many of the items for sale at the SG gallery in The Strand are indeed (15th century upwards), he was well qualified to advise inquisitive collectors that, whatever it was they decided to amass, they should always seek out the best dealers.

The fifteenth century cards, an uncultured lot of 10 complex ones and two halves, are probably not a good choice for beginners. They are worth up to £2,500.

The house of cards is possibly the first permanent gallery of its kind in the world, and even if you are not in a buying mood, you will find much there to delight you.

I will not dwell upon the rude cards (predictably made in France), nor upon the tedious kings and queens. But I should mention the Kennedy pack, the title card of which carries the legend: "We have a new Jack of Hearts. The White House is now a Full House."



Safety first

When something like this happens, we can be sure that the structure of Rhodesian society is well and truly crumbling.

The most elite boys' school in the country, Plumtree, is to be vacated and the whole scholastic body decanted into a "safe area", there to be merged with one of the best prestigious schools, Guinea Fowl. Little more than a scribbled row of tin shacks, forged out of an old RAF training school, Guinea Fowl represents the chillest end of nowhere.

Many hands make light fingers

The curious disease of "weight lifting" is spreading across south Wales. I am told that the Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre is the latest in a line of establishments which have suffered the loss of weights from training rooms.

Apparently Maindy Stadium in Cardiff, the headquarters of the Cardiff Amateur Athletic Club, has long been plagued by the problem of weights loss (no diet intended) and has been searching for an explanation of this curious form of theft (though it cannot be correct to describe the perpetrators of this crime as "light-fingered", surely?).

My man on the spot believes that the thieves are just ordinary shoplifters who have diges-

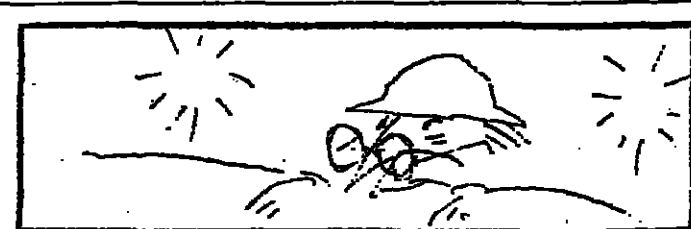
ted quantities of anabolic steroids to condition themselves properly for this work. He also points out that the "how the weights being purloined are gradually increasing, the improvement in training response of criminals."

Weightlifting equipment is, of course, extremely costly. Few amateur sportsmen and women can afford to own their own and they rely on the facilities provided by local sports clubs and training centres. What puzzles me is where on earth the thieves of such equipment can hope to make a quick buck. A weight is not the sort of thing you can flog on the corner outside the Arms Park, is it?

The men who cook for love

Jeffrey Hyman, a salesman who is 28, cooked trout and talked too much, which is probably why he came third. Second place was awarded to Vincent Raven, also 28, and a violin teacher. Mr Raven told me that he always cooks in evening dress, because it turns his girl friend on. His chicken breasts in cheese and almond sauce looked stunning.

The Bachelor Chef of the Year is Marcus Rutherford, a chef, who is only 24 and did wonders with his dumplings. In his spare time (I am surprised he has any) he paints and has two of his works currently on show at the Law Society.



Think tank warfare: Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy and artist of note, has accepted an invitation to join the British Council's board. Nothing noteworthy in that, you might think. Then let me remind you that abolition of the council has been recom-

No countdown

If the Rev Edward Shallicross Owen Jacobson were the kind of clergyman who delivered sermons, he would now be busy redrafting his sermon for next Sunday, Advent Sunday.

But Mr Jacobson does not give sermons. He prefaces what he calls "happenings" because, as his wife told me, he is a somewhat trendy sort of clergyman. Next Sunday, however, looks like being a non-happening in his Custodians church of St Peter's at Windrush. Unless he can get an Advent candle, that is.

Let me throw some light on the subject. The candle was to have been a vital part of his happening. It would have had divisions on it, so that Mr Jacobson could deliver the countdown to Christmas.

The Jacobsons went shopping for the big candle—a mission that had caused them no trouble in past year. No candle in Cirencester, or Cheltenham, or Gloucester. At Oxford, Mrs Jacobson was almost killed. There was a suitable candle in a religious bookshop but the seller had not put a price tag on it and so the shop would not sell it.

Worshippers from Great Barrington, Little Barrington, Sherborne, Aldsworth and Windrush itself will pack into St Peter's on Sunday. A good deed would shine in a naughty world if someone could come up with an Advent candle.

William McCull, general secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants (IPCS) was dismissed to see in the New Statesman an advertisement inviting applications for the post of 118 & Co. secretary. Happily, the vacancy was at the Irish Institute of Professional Civil Servants.



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

It may not always seem so, but the impulse to be of service is still a powerful one in our society. Medicine and most of the caring professions receive far more applicants for training than they can ever take on, and the main constraint on their growth is the problem of finding public funds to employ those who have been trained. Thousands of other people make their contribution as voluntary workers for charities or similar agencies. The number of small organizations has been growing rapidly for the past decade. After the creation of the welfare state it was for a time customary to regard their role as residual and perhaps diminishing, but more recently it has become clear that they have a distinctive and indispensable place in our social arrangements. The Welfare State report of their future, published today, traces their great variety of action and urges that fuller use be made of their potential.

Beveridge himself saw a continuing role for the voluntary sector in the welfare state principally as a moral force to set against the pursuit of gain. Its importance as a source of fulfilment for those involved will

always be great, but its more practical claims have become increasingly apparent. Welfare bureaucracies have proved themselves expensive and inflexible. Without a steady growth of national wealth they cannot offer more than a basic minimum of provision for the disadvantaged. By their nature they are in danger of reducing their beneficiaries to a state of passive anonymity.

Voluntary enterprise can often supply what the statutory services cannot. The most striking growth of new organizations has been among those where the categories they set out to help take an active part in the work and in voicing the needs of fellow-sufferers. Charities can experiment with forms of service which are novel or controversial, and help to make them publicly accepted. The scale of the human resources that can be tapped is indicated by the report's calculation that in man hours the voluntary organizations make at least as great a contribution as all the paid staff in local authority social services departments.

Central state aid to such organizations has doubled since

1970 (in cash terms, that is). A relatively small amount of assistance can have dramatic effects in enabling initiatives to get going, and at a fraction of the cost of providing a comparable service publicly. But it is not easy to channel subsidy in an efficient way without losing sight of accountability or imposing too many constraints. Voluntary action often develops in ways that take little account of the separate spheres of official departmental responsibility. The report stresses the crucial position of intermediate bodies like councils of social service in co-ordinating services and guiding effort towards neglected needs, and seeks additional support for them. But it accepts that such bodies could not also be government paymasters, and in general finds itself unable to offer any better arrangement than the present mixture of central and local government support. The same deficiencies of public administration that make the voluntary contribution so distinctive and valuable also makes it difficult for government to supply the assistance that is needed.

COMMON HISTORY OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA

No meeting between the leaders of two neighbouring communist countries is likely to be followed by a frank revelation of their differences—not that, until the anger explodes as it did between China and Russia in 1960. In any case the visit to Peking by Mr. Le Duan, the Vietnamese leader, should not be analysed in purely communist terms. China and Vietnam are not merely neighbours: the history of Vietnam has been intertwined with China's, for one millennium when China ruled Vietnam followed by another when Vietnamese independence was asserted. But for all that millennium, too, Vietnam's rulers always acknowledged their obligations towards China.

That is the context in which the present admitted differences between them should be placed. There is the difference of world view revealed in the opening after dinner speeches. Mr. Huo Kuo-feng restating the Maoist view of three worlds with the need to rally the second and third against the two super-powers in the first—the imperialists and the social-imperialists in the current jargon. Mr. Le Duan in reply found imperialism the only enemy and an alliance of socialist countries the best answer to it. In thanking his hosts for their aid during the Vietnam war he was willing to

include the Russians as allies— but in Moscow earlier this year he had given the Chinese their due too.

This difference of world outlook goes back many years and may now be less of an irritant than it was while the Vietnam war lasted. It is the national, regional matters that may have taken most time in yesterday's talks. The widely scattered offshore islands in the South China Sea are claimed by China, by Vietnam and by the Philippines and all three countries severally occupy them. The doubtful rewards of guano and phosphate have long been downgraded by the gleaming prospect of oil. Will there now be a share-out?

Then there is the conflict between Cambodia and Vietnam, a problem for China as the only power with influence in Phnom Penh and no less embarrassing to Peking than the unsavoury world reputation earned by their revolutionary ally. A third issue has been the attitude of both countries towards the non-communist countries of South-East Asia. Since the war ended in 1975 China and Vietnam have had good reason to coordinate their approach to a body such as Asean as well as to the individual governments.

Do such continuing differences explain the coolness that reports from Peking impute to the meet-

ing? If so, it is a studied and controlled coolness. The Vietnamese have had good reason to welcome the new leadership in China. A China concentrating on its economy and eschewing Maoist revolutionary extremism will be much more to their taste. They themselves have had to banish many revolutionary emotions in face of the urgent priorities of a devastated country. With the weakening of ideological conviction the importance of tradition is more likely to make itself felt.

It has been possible lately to detect in China's handling of South-East Asia at least a flavouring of the past in the tolerance, the readiness to mediate and to accept the responsibilities of a great power in the region. Even in Vietnam's case the country choking with rage against imperialism when the war ended in 1975 has modified its views in these two years as its isolation has ended. Facing each other, both China and Vietnam may now find in their shared and long-ranging historical sense a context in which the events of the past two decades will assume a different proportion. What is sixty years of Soviet communism, or a century of French rule or a disastrous American intervention set against the length of their common past?

TESTING TIME AT BELGRADE

A new phase is beginning at the Belgrade conference, which has been battling away since early October to keep life and purpose in the Helsinki agreement of 1975. Until now the thirty-five participating states of East and West have been concerned mainly with reviewing implementation of the agreement over the past two years. This has involved them in some acrimonious exchanges over human rights. While the western position may have been too strong for some and too weak for others the exchanges have served the valuable purpose of demonstrating that Helsinki has put human rights firmly on the agenda of détente. No East-West meeting can now avoid the subject. The Russian argument that discussion of the internal affairs of other countries amounts to inadmissible interference has not been accepted by the vast majority of participants. There have been open and specific criticisms which have gradually drawn the Russians into criticizing western practices. This has been rather optimistically welcomed by some western countries as representing the beginning of the constructive dialogue which the conference is supposed to foster.

But the conference now has to look to the future to see what can be done to renew and promote the purposes of the Helsinki conference, which was concerned not only with human rights but with the whole framework of European relations. There are now more than eighty new proposals on the tables of the various committees and there is a slight lull while they are being digested. Roughly a quarter come from the neutrals and non-aligned and the rest are divided between the Warsaw Pact countries and Nato and the Nine. The Warsaw Pact proposals are mostly rather

general and include unreal ideas already rejected by the West, such as that everyone should promise not to use nuclear weapons first, or that alliances should not accept new members (meaning Spain). They also include, for instance, Bulgarian ideas on promoting cooperation in sport and in the publication of encyclopaedias.

The western proposals are said by the Russians to be too technical. They are indeed detailed but they are aimed at promoting practical improvements, remedying specific grievances, and removing specific obstacles to East-West contacts. There is, for instance, a proposal for improving implementation of the Helsinki provisions requiring notification of military manoeuvres. States would notify manoeuvres before a meeting threshold of 25,000 men and would also notify major military movements into or within the defined area. If agreed, this would be a significant contribution to mutual confidence. It has support among the neutrals and non-aligned, and also from Romania, but the Russians still seem undecided.

Other western proposals would, if accepted, give practical expression to human rights by removing a few more obstacles to the movement of people and information between participating states. Requirements for exit visas would be reduced and the price of travel documents, which is often high in communist countries, would be no more than the equivalent of one week's average wage. People wanting to marry citizens of other states would be provided with full information on procedure. States would intensify efforts to publish economic and commercial information. Telex and telephone services would be improved. Archives would be made more

easily available to scholars (restrictions still abound, and even the archives of Tsarist Russia are far from fully accessible). And so on, through page after page.

These are the nuts and bolts of East-West relations as they affect a lot of individuals. They need to be taken seriously not only for the sake of the individuals concerned but also because they have a cumulative effect on wider aspects of relations. It is one of the achievements of the Helsinki conference that it has forced all the participants to get down more earnestly to this sort of basic and essential work. But there are also wider and potentially more divisive issues. One of the most interesting and important of the western proposals is that participating states should undertake to respect the right of institutions, organizations and persons to assist governments in the task of ensuring the full implementation of the Helsinki agreement, including where necessary to point out instances of non-implementation. This is an attempt to win protection for those who invoke the agreement and for the various groups which have set themselves up in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe to monitor its implementation.

Several members of such groups are now in prison, most notably Professor Yuri Orlov, Anatoli Shcharansky, and Mr. Alexander Ginzburg. Nobody knows what the Russians have in store for these people, or whether they have decided what to do with them. Their fate will, however, have a profound effect on the conference. It is obviously a particularly blatant defiance of the Helsinki agreement to persecute people for monitoring its implementation. Thus one of the severest tests of the Belgrade conference may yet lie ahead.

Publicising right

From Lord Wilts and others. Sir, It is ironic that, on a day when Michael Foot reaffirmed the Government's commitment to publicising rights, the opponents of PLR who must be the most powerful anti-pressure group in Britain, demonstrated their determination to delay justice at any cost. The cost of their latest ploy in the works will, it seems from your report of November 16, be four and a half months of time and £30,000 of the public's money.

The essential facts about PLR are already known. All the national organizations of writers agree that

loans sampling is the only PLR method that is just to writers. 2. Loans sampling has been working satisfactorily in Sweden for 20 years. 3. A plan for loans sampling in Britain was drawn up and tested (at a cost, we understand, of some £100,000) by the Technical Investigation Group. This body, which included librarians and (unpaid) writers, was set up by the Department of Education and Science. It sat for 15 months and published two reports. 4. These reports conclusively establish that loans sampling costs less to administer than the substitute for lending right which writers have rejected.

Since a group of Writers' Guild writers, including ourselves, sought a meeting with the Prime Minister in May, the Government has been exploring a non-statutory route to loans sampling. PLR is a new and costly inquiry into facts already known and conclusions already demonstrated can only block that route. The new inquiry is not even scheduled to report until March. Meanwhile, public service will presumably continue to be exacted from writers without payment. Yours truly, WILLS MAUREEN DUFFY, BRIGID BROPHY, Writers' Guild of Great Britain, 430 Edgware Road, W2.

Devolution and the English

From Mr. Iain Sproat, MP for Aberdeen South (Conservative). Sir, Your correspondent Mr. J. D. M. Hazell (November 19) suggests that the problem of MPs for Scottish constituencies being able to vote on so-called English domestic matters, while MPs for English constituencies cannot vote on similar matters affecting Scotland, can be solved by the MPs for Scotland not being allowed to vote on such matters in England as have been devolved to a Scottish Assembly in Scotland.

This solution, however, cannot work. If such a solution were attempted you could easily have a situation where the British Government at Westminster could overrule the United Kingdom majority in Scottish and Welsh seats. Indeed, at the moment—but because these MPs from Scotland and/or Wales would not be allowed to vote on the domestic issues affecting England, the Government would be prevented from carrying its own policies on such issues as they affect England—some 80 per cent of the United Kingdom.

Such a situation would clearly be intolerable for any government. On the other hand, it would be equally intolerable to have MPs from Scotland telling constituencies in England how to run their affairs, while at the same time the MPs from the same English constituencies would be powerless to tell the same Scottish constituencies how to run theirs. It is an irreducible contradiction in the United Kingdom, and then ignore it, as the Government proposes, is to introduce an unjust and unstable element into the government of the United Kingdom, which must lead to discontent and consequently to a desire for secession.

It is possible to have a unitary state such as we have; it is possible, although in my view undesirable and in the United Kingdom impractical, to have a federal state; it is possible, although even more undesirable, to have four independent nations. But what you cannot have is a position in between the unitary state and the federal state.

Criminal legal aid

From Mr. B. T. Harris. Sir, I am afraid that Mr. Montgomery Campbell (*The Times*, November 16) has misunderstood the Lord Chief Justice's criticisms of legal aid in criminal proceedings. The Lord Chief Justice was not concerned so much with the grant of legal aid as with the control of expenditure on such legal aid as has been granted.

So far as I am aware, most courts in considering the grant of legal aid in criminal proceedings follow the principles laid down in the Report of the Departmental Committee on this subject (*The Widgery Report*, Cmd 2934). As the name implies, the Lord Chief Justice was concerned with the committee and he would, I am sure, be the last to suggest that those criteria are incapable of improvement. My own society, in its evidence to the Royal Commission on Legal Services has suggested changes which might be made in the criteria with a view to ensuring that public money is spent where it can do most good. This is quite a different matter from the issue of legal aid once it is granted. It seems to me agreed that such abuses do occur and I welcome the Lord Chief Justice's initiative in suggesting machinery for preventing them. What I do not accept is Mr. Campbell's contention that transferring the grant of legal aid from the courts to the Law Society is any relevance at all to the sort of problems referred to by the Lord Chief Justice.

In fact, Lord Widgery's committee specifically looked at and rejected this suggestion for a number of reasons. In the first place they pointed out that an application for legal aid in criminal proceedings

poses entirely different questions from a similar application in civil proceedings. The question is not "has he a good case?" but "do the interests of justice require that he should be represented?" The weightiest argument against criminal legal aid being administered by the Law Society is that the Law Society is not a criminal court. The tempo in criminal cases," said the Report, "is much faster." The Law Society has said that they could overcome this by referring applications to a secretary in urgent cases.

It is not clear how the Law Society would be able to do this, but the committee dismissed the idea that the secretary would be more competent to deal with applications than a court or judge. The Law Society would have power to grant legal aid in a case where a court was not satisfied that it was necessary.

Justices' clerks, to whom is delegated the burden of considering most applications for criminal legal aid, are not concerned primarily with increasing or reducing public expenditure, but with ensuring that a criminal offence should be deprived of legal representation when he needs it. They believe that the administration of the system could be improved, but they can see no advantage and serious disadvantages in its being transferred from the courts to the Law Society.

I have the honour to be, Sir, yours faithfully, B. T. HARRIS, Chairman, Legal Committee, Justices' Clerks' Society, Poole Magistrates' Court, Law Courts, Park Road, Poole, Dorset.

bringing action. The ABUSE petition launched by this Association calls for specific legislation to make illegal "the sexual exploitation of children by way of photography for commercial purposes". It asks the Home Secretary to look at that flourishing section of the pornography industry, largely left unprosecuted, which publishes—

—in many so-called "girlie" magazines—obscene and indecent photographs of young females models dressed as children. Such material surely amounts to incitement to commit offences against children? This vague has inevitably led to the use of real children.

The truth is that in the whole area of public decency there has existed in the Home Office, the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the office of the Attorney General a consistent unwillingness to take effective action. It is this attitude which has finally put the Home Secretary at such a disadvantage now that he, the Government and the country are faced with a form of exploitation which deeply shocks us all.

Yours faithfully, MARY WHITEHOUSE, Hon. General Secretary, National Lawyers' and Listeners' Association, Colchester, Essex, November 18.

By royal custom, a princess usually adds her official designation, such as that derived from her husband's name or title.

Strictly speaking, Princess Anne should be styled "Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne, Dame Anne Phillips" as she is a Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, but it is understandable that she prefers "Mrs. Mark Phillips" to such a repetitive description. In this she is in good company. Baroness Spencer-Churchill was known as "Mrs. Winston Churchill" until 1953, when her husband received the Garter, despite the fact that in 1946 she became a GBE.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK W. MONTAGUE-SMITH, Editor, Debrett's Peerage Limited, 23 Mossop Street, SW3, November 21.

From Mr. Patrick Montague-Smith. Sir, I do not agree with Mr. George Hutchinson (November 9) in his descriptions of Princess Anne as Mrs. Mark Phillips and Princess Alexandra as the Hon. Mrs. Angus Ogilvy are incorrect.

I understand that it has been established that of the Royal Family's princely titles only that of the Prince of Wales is substantive. Other princely titles are officially called "titular dignities", corresponding to courtesy titles derived from peerages. As Princess Anne is a sovereign's daughter she has the titular dignity of a princess. Indeed this style was granted in 1948 to the children of the Queen as Princess Elizabeth, before her daughter's birth. This is of a higher rank than the courtesy style assigned to a Duke's daughter, ie, Lady Anne, which is superfluous.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK W. MONTAGUE-SMITH, Editor, Debrett's Peerage Limited, 23 Mossop Street, SW3, November 21.

By royal custom, a princess usually adds her official designation, such as that derived from her husband's name or title.

Strictly speaking, Princess Anne should be styled "Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne, Dame Anne Phillips" as she is a Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, but it is understandable that she prefers "Mrs. Mark Phillips" to such a repetitive description. In this she is in good company. Baroness Spencer-Churchill was known as "Mrs. Winston Churchill" until 1953, when her husband received the Garter, despite the fact that in 1946 she became a GBE.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK W. MONTAGUE-SMITH, Editor, Debrett's Peerage Limited, 23 Mossop Street, SW3, November 21.

Refurbishing the SS image

From Mr. C. D. Bellamy.

Sir, Most of the recent correspondence on the Waffen SS seems to centre on the question of whether they were ever very brave soldiers or extremely cruel perpetrators of atrocities, as if the two were mutually exclusive. The lessons of history show, surely, that great courage is frequently combined with unbridled cruelty, either in the case of the Japanese in the last war, or of a great many medieval battles where a highly developed code of chivalry among certain participants was accompanied by the killing of the wounded and of prisoners not worth ransoming, and by the horrific sucking of ovens. The Romans, those great "civilizers" of mankind, are also an example. In the light of this it is understandable that a highly developed code of conduct based on the assumption of their own inbred superiority, as was the case with the Waffen SS, should have led to extension of courage and barbarism. The Waffen SS claim to have been purely fighting troops has some truth in it, but as has been pointed out, whereas some SS men were drafted directly from the army, others began their careers in concentration camps. Their indictment as a body at Nuremberg is perhaps a symptom of the difficulty in distinguishing the parts. The military SS was a body of such atrocities as the Malmédy massacre, but was this not due principally to the initiative of Peiper, commanding the leading battalion of the Leibstandarte, who received orders to "spread a wave of terror" but misinterpreted them in a way that the command had not intended? Without wishing to "whitewash the SS" it is clear that a case can be made for certain units of it, and after a generation and a half we can afford the luxury of giving them a hearing.

Yours faithfully, C. D. BELLAMY, Editor, *The Times*, Mecklenburgh Square, WC1.

From Mr. Jonathan Guinness. Sir, When, at the request of a mutual personal friend, I agreed to put up former SS Colonel Schultze-Knauss for a few nights, this was a purely private matter of no political significance. The war is over and his presence here would be against public policy; on the contrary, he had been here before and appeared on The Frost Programme without anyone, turning a hair, thinking about the SS, which was investigated after the war. He has never been accused, let alone convicted, of any crime.

The opportunity to talk in private with Hitler's former adjutant aroused my curiosity, since my interest in contemporary history is as great as the next man's. I suspect that many of those who are now sounding off about this matter would have reacted in the same way. I reckoned without the spectacular inexperience of the Government, as well as what can only be described as personal malice in some sections of the press. The first is the promotion of a picture book about the SS, which should have been something of a non-event, into a publicity man's dream, and no doubt ensured the sale of thousands of expensive copies. The second has sought to propagate the view, by innuendo that I am trying to help whitewash the SS.

I am as haunted as Mr. Airey Neave by the pictures of the piled and pathetic corpses from the concentration camps; and, I would add, by the well-documented, though not unique—excesses in military operations in occupied Europe which were the direct responsibility

of the Waffen SS as a formation. These will always be the images which first spring to mind when the SS is mentioned. No literate person is going to be converted to Nazism by a pictorial history of the Waffen SS fighting units simply because it largely omits the atrocities, for these are common knowledge.

In fact there is a sense in which such a book can be considered salutary. By portraying the Waffen SS as ordinary people it rubs home the lesson that, in an appropriately historical political climate or in the desperation of total war, ordinary people can be made to commit atrocious acts. This is a constructive lesson to be drawn from the bitter tragedy of the Second World War. It hangs on complacently as if the SS belonged to some non-human race, nothing to do with us, is to decide a self awareness that is necessary if we humans are to guard against a dark side that is common to us all.

The fuss has been depressing because it has shown that many influential people in this country, right up to government level, are still fighting the last war. It is understandably easy, especially for members of the Jewish community to fall into this trap. They, in particular, should reflect that while Nazism is permanently destroyed as an effective force, Soviet Communism with its outriders on the extreme left is not only a danger to the West in general, but also a particular danger to the Jews of Israel in particular. To divert attention from the pressing Communist danger to a fictitious Nazi one is to play into the hands of a powerful and ruthless enemy.

Yours faithfully, JONATHAN GUINNESS, Osbanon Hall, near Market Bosworth, Leicestershire.

From Mr. Hubert Meyer. Sir, We are the Waffen-SS officers, whose intended participation in the launching of a book about our formation has caused an objection in Parliament. Certainly we do not want to do anything in your country which would be against the law or cause embarrassment to the authorities, but we should like to express our disappointment that the proposal to put our point of view should be put off indefinitely.

We would of course be glad to be convicted or even accused of any war crime, and in the atmosphere of retribution through which we lived after the war, it may be assumed that had there been any evidence against us we should certainly have been arraigned.

We joined the Waffen-SS as young men in the same way that English youth joined the Guards, because it was an elite unit, which the SS was not. We were thousands like us.

We believe that those units of the Waffen-SS, which fought honourably and bravely as frequently would be against the law or cause embarrassment to the authorities, even if, like most regimental histories, it lays little stress on the negative aspect. There is no chance in the case of the Waffen-SS that the negative aspect will be forgotten, but if it is the truth it is not the whole truth. Truth is many sided, and the facet of it that this book presents has been neglected.

Our best traditions of freedom and objectivity would surely indicate that it be examined critically rather than subjected to a clumsy threat of suppression.

Yours sincerely, HUBERT MEYER, 5090 Leverkusen 1, Richard-Wagner-Strasse 18, West Germany.

From Mr. Hubert Meyer. Sir, We are the Waffen-SS officers, whose intended participation in the launching of a book about our formation has caused an objection in Parliament. Certainly we do not want to do anything in your country which would be against the law or cause embarrassment to the authorities, but we should like to express our disappointment that the proposal to put our point of view should be put off indefinitely.

We would of course be glad to be convicted or even accused of any war crime, and in the atmosphere of retribution through which we lived after the war, it may be assumed that had there been any evidence against us we should certainly have been arraigned.

We joined the Waffen-SS as young men in the same way that English youth joined the Guards, because it was an elite unit, which the SS was not. We were thousands like us.

We believe that those units of the Waffen-SS, which fought honourably and bravely as frequently would be against the law or cause embarrassment to the authorities, even if, like most regimental histories, it lays little stress on the negative aspect. There is no chance in the case of the Waffen-SS that the negative aspect will be forgotten, but if it is the truth it is not the whole truth. Truth is many sided, and the facet of it that this book presents has been neglected.

Our best traditions of freedom and objectivity would surely indicate that it be examined critically rather than subjected to a clumsy threat of suppression.

Yours sincerely, HUBERT MEYER, 5090 Leverkusen 1, Richard-Wagner-Strasse 18, West Germany.

From Mr. Arthur Bryant, CH. Sir, Something that to ordinary men and women seems to be eluding them is that the Waffen-SS were not those soldiers, policemen, firemen and the like—who in their calling have, unlike the rest of us, to hazard life and limb in our service, should not, in the assessment of their final worth and needs, be subject to the same considerations and competitive pressures as those whose economic value can be determined by the calculations of the market. They were, in fact, the industrial muscle power for otherwise these brave servants of the community can only make their economic needs felt by refusing to perform the sacrificial duties upon which we all depend for our safety.

The Government's praiseworthy fight against inflation notwithstanding, it is neither right nor wise to place them in such a position. Yours faithfully, ARTHUR BRYANT, The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Mr. H. Leach. Sir, Could Mr. Howells elaborate on the "wide and extensive powers" available to magistrates in respect of those hoodlums over 17 not resident in the vicinity of Manchester or Greenwich, where the only two senior attendance centres in the country are available?

Yours faithfully, HAROLD LEACH, Clerk to the Justices, Chelmsford Division, The Magistrates' Court, Chelmsford, Essex.

From Mr. Franta Belsky. Sir, On the morning of the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the Order of Merit Graham Sutherland recounted on the radio the problem he had the first time he wore the insignia and how someone advised him to use a safety pin to fix the ribbon to his braces at the back of his collar.

A piece of uncommon information came my way when I was researching Admiral Cunningham for my memorial sculpture in Trafalgar Square: The Usage of the OM is to wear it reverse up—obverse concealed, that is, showing the Sovereign's image and not the words "For Merit".

Yours faithfully, FRANTA BELSKY, 12 Pembroke Studios, Pembroke Gardens, W8.

From Mr. Wayne Eagling. Sir, The dancers of the Royal Ballet wish to refuse certain criticisms of our management made in *The Times* Diary on November 11.

Rehearsals are not "slapdash and haphazard" and particularly for the ballet *Les Noces* are meticulously conducted. This ballet is uniquely difficult to perform without error, a fact which is recognized by the number of extra hours allocated to its preparation.

Yours faithfully, WAYNE EAGLING, Equity Deputy, Chairman of dancers of the Royal Ballet, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2.

From Mr. Franta Belsky. Sir, On the morning of the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the Order of Merit Graham Sutherland recounted on the radio the problem he had the first time he wore the insignia and how someone advised him to use a safety pin to fix the ribbon to his braces at the back of his collar.

A piece of uncommon information came my way when I was researching Admiral Cunningham for my memorial sculpture in Trafalgar Square: The Usage of the OM is to wear it reverse up—obverse concealed, that is, showing the Sovereign's image and not the words "For Merit".

Steve Biko on the quest for a true humanity

Is perhaps fitting to start examining why it is necessary for us to think collectively about a problem we never stated. In doing so, I do not wish to concern myself unnecessarily with the white people of South Africa, but to get to the right answers we must ask the right questions: we have found out what went wrong—here and when; and we have found out whether our position is a deliberate creation of an artificial fabrication of the truth by power-hungry people whose motive is authority, security, wealth and comfort. In other words, the Black Consciousness approach would be irrelevant to a colourless and non-exploitative egalitarian society. It is relevant here because we believe that an anomalous situation is a deliberate creation of man.

There is no doubt that the four question in South African politics was originally introduced for economic reasons. The leaders of the white community had to create some kind of barrier between black and white so that the whites could enjoy privileges at the expense of blacks and still feel the need to give a moral justification for the obvious exploitation that tricked even the least of white consciences. However, tradition has it that "whenever a group of people was reared the lovely fruits of wealth, security and prestige it begins to find it more comfortable to believe in the obvious and to accept it as normal than it alone is entitled to privilege."

In order to believe this seriously, it needs to convince itself of all the arguments that support the lie. It is not surprising, therefore, that in South Africa, after generations of exploitation, white people in the whole have come to believe in the inferiority of the black man, so much that while the race problem started as an offshoot of the economic greed exhibited by white people, it has now become a serious problem on its own. White people do not despise black people, not because they need to reinforce their attitude and so justify their position of privilege but simply because they actually believe that black is inferior and bad. This is the basis upon which whites are working in South Africa, and it is what makes South African society racist.

The racism we meet does not only exist on an individual

basis—it is also institutionalized to make it look like the South African way of life. Although of late there has been a feeble attempt to gloss over the overt racist elements in the system, it is still true that the system derives its nourishment from the existence of anti-black attitudes in society. To make the lie live even longer, blacks have to be denied any chance of accidentally proving their equality with white men. For this reason there is job reservation, lack of training in skilled work, and a tight orbit around professional possibilities for blacks. Stupidly enough, the system turns back to say that blacks are inferior because they have no economists, no engineers, etc. although it is made impossible for blacks to acquire these skills.

To give authenticity to their lie and to show the righteousness of their claim, whites have further worked out detailed schemes to "solve" the racial situation in this country. Thus, a pseudo-equality movement has been created for "Coloureds" and several "Bantu states" are in the process of being set up. So independent and fortunate are they that they do not have to spend a cent on their defence because they have nothing to fear from white South Africa which will always come to their assistance in times of need. One does not, of course, fail to see the arrogance of whites and their contempt for blacks, even in their well-considered modern schemes for subjugation. The overall success of the white power structure has been in managing to bind the whites together in defence of the status quo. By skillfully playing on that imaginary bogey—apartheid (black people) they have managed to convince even diehard liberals that there is something to fear in the idea of the black man assuming his rightful place at the helm of the South African ship. Thus after years of silence we are able to hear the familiar voice of Alan Paton saying, as far away as London: "Perhaps apartheid is worth a try." At whose expense, Dr Paton? asks an intelligent black journalist. Hence whites in general reinforce each other even though they allow some moderate disagreements on the details of subjugation schemes.

There is no doubt that they do not question the validity of white values. They see nothing anomalous in the fact that they alone are arguing about the future of 17 million blacks—in a land which is the natural backyard of the black people. Any proposals for change emanating from the black world are viewed with great indignation. Even the so-called Opposition, the United Party, has the nerve to tell the Coloured people that they are asking for too much. A journalist from a liberal newspaper like *The Sunday Times* of Johannesburg describes a black student—who is only telling the truth—as a militant, impatient young man.

It is not enough for whites to be on the offensive. So indeed are they in prejudice that they do not believe that blacks can formulate their thoughts without white guidance and tutelage. Thus, even those whites who see much wrong with the system make it their business to control the response of the blacks to the provocation. No one is suggesting that it is not the business of liberal whites to oppose what is wrong. However, it appears to us as too much of a coincidence that liberals—few as they are—should not only be determining the *modus operandi* of those blacks who oppose the system, but also leading it, in spite of their involvement in the system.

To us it seems that their role spells out the totality of the white power structure—the fact that though whites are our problem, it is still other whites who want to retain the status quo. They deal with that problem. They do so by dragging all sorts of red herrings across our paths. They tell us that the situation is a class struggle rather than a racial one. Let them go to van Tonder (Derogatory reference to the average Afrikaans-speaking farmer) in the Free State and tell him this. We believe we know what the problem is, and we will stick by our findings.

I want to go a little deeper in this discussion because it is time we killed this false political coalition between blacks and whites as long as it is set up on a wrong analysis of our situation. I want to kill it for another reason—namely that it forms at present the greatest stumbling block to our unity. It dangles before freedom-hungry blacks promises of a

This essay by Steve Biko, the South African black consciousness leader, who died while in police hands under interrogation on September 12, has been re-produced by the Christian Institute Trustees in London, as a tribute to his memory.



great future for which no one in these groups seems to be working particularly hard. The basic problem in South Africa has been analysed by liberal whites as being apartheid. They argue that in order to oppose it we have to form non-racial groups. Between these two extremes, they claim, lies the land of milk and honey for which we are working. The thesis, the antithesis and the synthesis have been mentioned by some great philosophers as the cardinal points around which any social revolution revolves. For the liberals, the thesis is apartheid, the antithesis is non-racialism, but the synthesis is very feebly defined. They want to tell the blacks that they see integration as the ideal solution. Black Consciousness defines the situation differently. The thesis is in fact a strong white racism and therefore, the antithesis is a strong solidarity among the blacks on whom this white racism seeks to prey. Out of these two situations we can therefore hope to reach some kind of balance—a true humanity where power politics will have no place. This analysis spells out the difference between the old and new approaches. The failure of the liberals is in the fact that their antithesis is already a watered-down version of the truth whose close proximity to the thesis will nullify the purported balance. This accounts

for the failure of the Sproccas commissions (Study Project on Apartheid) set up by South African Council of Churches and Christian Institute in 1968) to make any real headway, for they are already looking for an alternative acceptable to the white man. Everybody in the commissions knows what is right but all are looking for the most seemingly way of dodging the responsibility of saying what is right.

It is much more important for blacks to see this difference than it is for whites. We must learn to accept that no group, however benevolent, can hand power to the vanquished on a plate. We must accept that the limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress. As long as we go to van Tonder (Derogatory reference to the average Afrikaans-speaking farmer) in the Free State and tell him this, we are giving him further sanction to continue with his racist and oppressive system. We must realize that our situation is not a mistake on the part of whites but a deliberate act, and that no amount of moral lecturing will persuade the white man to "correct" the situation. The system conceals nothing without demand, for the hand power to the vanquished on a plate. We must operate on the basis that the ignorant will learn to know, the child will grow into an adult and therefore demands will begin to be made. It fears itself to resist demands which it cannot resist.

Thus we refuse to make these demands and choose to come to a round table to beg for your deliverance, you are asking for the contempt of those who have power over you. This is why we must reject the beggar tactics that are being forced on us by those who wish to appease our cruel masters. This is where the SASO message and cry "Black Man, you are on your own!" becomes relevant.

The concept of integration, whose virtues are often extolled by white liberal circles is full of unquestioned assumptions that embrace white values. It is a concept long defined by whites and never examined by blacks. It is based on the assumption that all is well with a system apart from some degree of mismanagement by irrational conservatives at the top. Even the people who argue for integration often forget to tell it in its supposedly beautiful covering. They tell each other that we are not for job reservation, there would be a beautiful market to exploit. They forget they are talking about people. They see blacks as additional levers to some complicated industrial machine. This is white man's integration—an integration based on exploitative values. It is an integration in which black will compete with black, using each other as rungs up a step ladder leading them to white values. It is an integration in which the black man will have to prove himself in terms of these values before meriting acceptance and ultimate assimilation, and in which the poor will grow poorer and the rich richer in a country where the poor have always been black. We do not want to be reminded that it is we, the indigenous people, who are poor and exploited in the land of our birth. These are concepts which the Black Consciousness approach wishes to eradicate from the black man's mind before he is driven to chaos by irresponsible people from Coc-cops and hamburger cultural backgrounds.

Black Consciousness is an attitude of mind and a way of life, the most positive call to emanate from the black world for a long time. Its essence is the realization by the black man of the need to rally together with his brothers around the cause of their oppression—the blackness of their skin—and to operate as a group to rid themselves of the shackles that bind them to perpetual servitude. It is based on a self-examination which has ultimately led them to believe that by seeking to run away from themselves and emulate the white man, they are insulting the intelligence of whoever created the black. The philosophy of Black Consciousness therefore expresses group pride and the determination of the black to rise and attain the servitude and freedom is the ability to define oneself with one's possibilities held back not by the power of other people over one but only by one's relationship to God and to natural surroundings. On his own, therefore, the Black Man wishes to explore his surroundings and test his possibilities. He does not want to make his freedom real by whatever means he deems fit. At the

heart of this kind of thinking is the realization by blacks that the most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed. If one is free at heart, no man-made chains can bind one to servitude, but if one's mind is enslaved, one can be controlled by the oppressor as to make the oppressed believe that he is a liability to the white man. Thus there will be nothing the oppressed can do to scare his powerful masters. Hence thinking along lines of Black Consciousness makes the black man see himself as being complete in himself. It makes him less dependent and more free to express his manhood. At the end of it all he cannot tolerate attempts by anybody to dwarf the significance of his manhood.

In order that Black Consciousness can be used to advantage as a philosophy to apply to people in a position like ours, a number of points have to be observed. As people existing in a continuous struggle for truth, we have to examine and question old concepts, values and systems. Having found the right answers we shall then work for consciousness among all people to make it possible for us to proceed towards putting these answers into effect. In this process, we have to evolve our own logic, our own forms and strategies to suit the need and situation always keeping in mind our fundamental beliefs and values.

In all aspects of the black-white relationship, now and in the past, we see a constant tendency by whites to depict blacks as of an inferior status. Our culture, our history and indeed all aspects of the black man's life have been battered nearly out of shape in the great collision between the indigenous values and the Anglo-Boer culture.

The first people to come and relate to blacks in a human way in South Africa were missionaries. They were in the vanguard of the colonization movement to civilize and educate the savages and introduce the Christian message to them. The religion they brought was quite foreign to the black indigenous people. African religion in its essence is a very different kind of operation on the basis that the ignorant will learn to know, the child will grow into an adult and therefore demands will begin to be made. It fears itself to resist demands which it cannot resist.

Thus we refuse to make these demands and choose to come to a round table to beg for your deliverance, you are asking for the contempt of those who have power over you. This is why we must reject the beggar tactics that are being forced on us by those who wish to appease our cruel masters. This is where the SASO message and cry "Black Man, you are on your own!" becomes relevant.

It was the missionaries who confused the people with their new religion. They scared our people with stories of hell. They painted their God as a demanding God who wanted worship or else. People began to discard their clothes and their customs in order to be accepted in this new religion. Knowing how religious the African people were, the missionaries stepped up their terror campaign on the emotions of the people with their detailed accounts of eternal burning, tearing of hair and gnashing of teeth. By some strange and twisted logic, they argued that if one did not accept the new religion and our superstitions—all this in spite of the biological discrepancy which is at the base of their religion. This cold and cruel religion was thrust on the indigenous people and caused frequent strife between the converted and the "pagans" for the former, having imbibed the false values from white society, were taunting the latter and despising those who defended the truth of their indigenous religion. With the ultimate acceptance of the western religion down went our cultural values.

While I do not wish to question the basic truth at the heart of the Christian message, there is a strong case for a re-examination of Christianity. It has proved a very adaptable religion which does not seek to supplement existing orders but—like any universal truth—to find application within a particular situation. More than anyone else the missionaries knew that not all they did was essential to the spread of the message. But the basic intention was to further the merely spreading the word. Their arrogance and their monopoly on truth, beauty and moral judgment taught them to despise native customs and traditions and seek to infuse their own new values into these societies. Here then we have the case for Black Theology. While our existing Black Theology at length, let it suffice to say that it seeks to relate God and Christ once more to the black man and his daily problems. It wants to describe Christ as a fighting god, not a passive god who allows a lie to rest unchallenged. It grapples with existential problems and does not claim to be a theology of absolutes. It seeks to bring back God to the black man and to the truth and reality of his situation. This is an important aspect of Black Consciousness, for quite a large proportion of black

people in South Africa are Christians still swimming in a mire of confusion—the aftermath of the missionary approach. It is the duty therefore of all black preachers and ministers of religion to save Christianity by adopting Black Theology's approach and thereby once more uniting the black man with his God.

A long look should also be taken at the educational system for blacks. The same tense situation was found as long ago as the arrival of the missionaries. Children were taught, under the pretext of hygiene, good manners and other such vague concepts, to despise their mode of upbringing at home and to question the values and customs of their society. The result was the expected one—children and parents saw life differently and the former lost respect for the latter. Now in African society it is a cardinal sin for a child to lose respect for his parent. Yet how can one parent and parent when the child is taught by his know-all white tutors to disregard his family teachings? Who can resist losing respect for his parents when he sees school his whole cultural background is summed up in one word—barbarism?

Thus we can immediately see the logic of the former missionaries in the forefront of the colonization process. A man who succeeds in making a group of people accept a foreign concept in which he is expert makes them perfect slaves for his progress in the particular field can only be evaluated by him; the student must constantly turn to him for guidance and promotion. In being forced to accept the Anglo-Boer culture, the blacks have allowed themselves to be at the mercy of the white man and to have him as their eternal supervisor. Only he can tell us how good our performance is and instinctively each of us is pleased to please this powerful, all-knowing master. This is what Black Consciousness seeks to eradicate.

As one black writer says, colonialism is never satisfied with having the native in its grip but, by some strange logic, it must turn to his past and disfigure and distort it. Hence the history of the black man in this country is most disappointing to read. It is presented merely as a long succession of defeats. The Xhosa were thieves who went to war for stolen property; the Boers were provoked; the Xhosa but merely went on "punitive expeditions" to teach the thieves a lesson. Heroes like Makana (early nineteenth-century Xhosa prophet, sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island and drowned while escaping in a boat. Refusal by blacks to accept the truth of his death led to the mythical hope of his eventual return) who were essentially revolutionaries are painted as superstitious trouble-makers who lied to the people about his return. The water of Great nation-builders like Shaka are cruel tyrants who frequently attacked smaller tribes for no reason but for some sadistic purpose. Not only is there no objectivity in the history taught us but there is frequently an appalling misrepresentation of facts that sicken even the uninformed student.

Thus a lot of attention has to be paid to our history if we as blacks want to use it as a weapon in our coming into consciousness. We have to rewrite our history and produce in it the heroes that formed the core of our resistance to the white invader. More has to be revealed and stress has to be laid on the successful nation-building attempts of men such as Shaka, Moshoeshoe and Hintsa. [Famous tribal chieftains of, respectively, the Xhosa, Basotho and Tswana.] These areas call for intense research to provide some sorely needed missing links. We would be too naive to expect our conquerors to write unbiased histories about us but we have to destroy the myth that our history starts in 1652, the year Van Riebeeck landed at the Cape.

Our culture must be defined in concrete terms. We must relate the past to the present and demonstrate the historical evolution of the modern black man. There is a tendency to think of our culture as a static culture that was arrested in 1652 and has never developed since. The return to the "bush" concept suggests that we have nothing to boast of except lions, sex and drink. We accept that when colonization sets in it destroys the indigenous culture and leaves behind a bastard culture that may thrive at the pace allowed it by the dominant culture. But we also have to realize that our culture have largely succeeded in withstanding the process of bastardization and that even at this moment we can still demonstrate that we appreciate a man for himself. Ours is a true man-centred society whose sacred tradition is that of sharing. We must reject, as we have been doing, the individualistic cold approach to life that is the cornerstone of the Anglo-Boer culture. We must seek to restore to the black man the great importance we used to give to human relations, the high regard for people and their property and for life in general; to reduce the triumph of technology over man and the materialistic element that is slowly creeping into our society.

These are essential features of our black culture to which we must cling. Black culture above all implies freedom on our part to innovate without recourse to white values. This innovation is part of the natural development of any culture. A culture is essentially the society's composite answer to the varied problems of life. We experience new problems every day and whatever we do adds to the richness of our cultural heritage as long as it has man as its centre. The adoption of black theatre and drama is one such important innovation which we need to encourage and to develop. We know that our love of music and rhythm has relevance even in this day.

Being part of an exploitative society in which we are often the direct objects of exploitation, we need to evolve a strategy towards our economic situation. We are aware that the blacks are still colonised even within the borders of South Africa. Their cheap labour has helped to make South Africa what it is today. Our money from the townships takes a one-way journey to the banks and all we do in our lives is pay the white man either with labour or in coin. Capitalistic exploitative tendencies, coupled with the arrogance of white racism, have conspired against us. Thus in South Africa now it is very expensive to be poor. It is the poor people who stay far from town and therefore have to spend more money on transport to come and work for white people; it is the poor people who use uneconomic and inconvenient fuel like paraffin and candles because of the refusal of the white man to install electricity in black areas; it is the poor people who are governed by many ill-defined restrictive laws; it is the poor people who have to spend money on fines for "technical" offences; it is the poor people who have no hospitals and are therefore exposed to exorbitant charges by private doctors; it is the poor people who use untarred roads, have to walk long distances, and therefore experience the greatest wear and tear on "commodities" like shoes; it is the poor people who have to pay for their children's books while whites get them free. It does not need to be said that it is the black people who are poor.

We therefore need to take another look at how best to use our money. We have a little as it may seem to be. We must seriously examine the possibilities of establishing business co-operatives whose interests will be ploughed back into community development programmes. We should think along such lines as the "buy black" campaign once suggested in Johannesburg and establish our own banks for the benefit of the community. Organizational development among blacks has only been low because we have allowed it to be. Now that we know we are on our own, it is an absolute duty for us to fulfill these needs.

The last step in Black Consciousness is to broaden the base of our operation. One of the basic tenets of Black Consciousness is totality of involvement. This means that all blacks must sit as one big unit, and no fragmentation and distraction from the mainstream of events be allowed. Hence we must resist the attempts by protagonists of the Bantustan theory to fragment our approach. We are oppressed not as individuals, nor as Xhosa, Xhosa, Venda or Indians. We are oppressed because we are black. We must use that concept to unite ourselves and to respond as a cohesive group. We must cling to each other with a tenacity that will shock the perpetrators of evil. Our preparedness to take upon ourselves the cudgels of the struggle will see us through. We must remove from our vocabulary completely the concept of fear. Truth must ultimately triumph over evil and the white man has always nourished his greed on this basic fear that shows itself in the black community. Special Branch agents will not turn the lie into truth, and one must ignore them in a true bid for change we have to take off our coats, be prepared to lose our comfort and security, our jobs and positions of prestige, and our families, for just as it is true that "leadership and security are basically incompatible," a struggle without casualties is no struggle. We must realize that prophetic cry of black students: "Black man you are on your own!" Some will charge that we are racist but these people are using exactly the values we reject. We do not have the power to subjugate anyone. We are merely responding to provocation in the most realistic possible way. Racism does not only imply exclusion of one race by another—it always presupposes that the exclusion is for the purpose of subjugation. Blacks have had enough experience as objects of racism not to wish to turn the tables. While it may be relevant now to talk about black in relation to white, we must not make this our preoccupation, for it can be a negative exercise. As we proceed further towards the achievement of our goals let us talk more about ourselves and our struggle and less about whites. We have set out on a quest for true humanity and a better world where the horizon can see the glittering prize. Let us march forth with courage and determination, drawing strength from our country and its people and brotherhood. In time we shall be in a position to bestow upon South Africa the greatest gift possible—a more human face.

First published in a book of essays entitled *Black Theology: the South African Voice*, edited by Basil Moore and published by C. Hurst, London.

Discover the subtle yet distinctive taste of Glenfiddich Pure Malt.

Glenfiddich is pure, unblended malt whisky. Distilled in the ancient way—in hand-beaten copper pot-stills—it has a smooth, mellow, yet subtly distinctive taste.

Enjoyed straight or with a little water, Glenfiddich is perhaps, the greatest single malt of the Highlands.

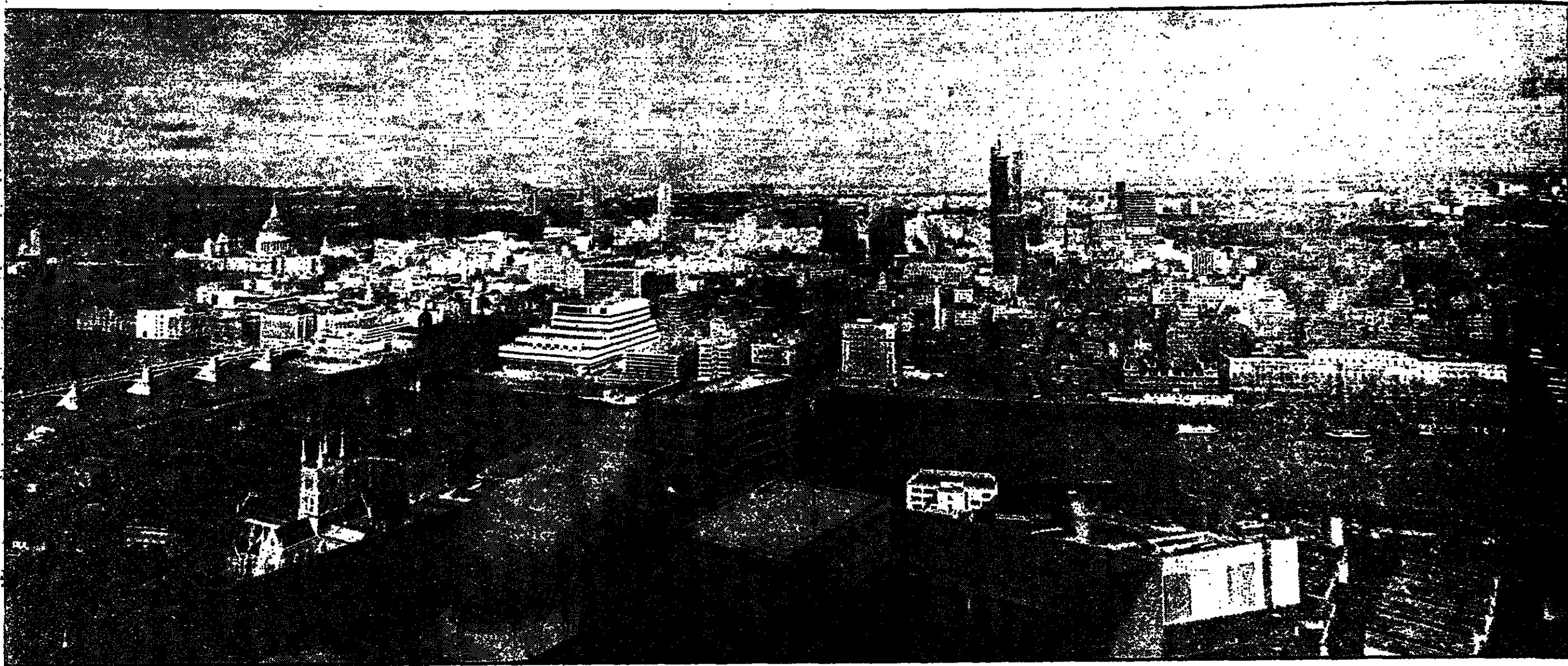
"Glenfiddich" in Gaelic means "Valley of the Deer".



Black Consciousness is an attitude of mind and a way of life, the most positive call to emanate from the black world for a long time. Its essence is the realization by the black man of the need to rally together with his brothers around the cause of their oppression—the blackness of their skin—and to operate as a group to rid themselves of the shackles that bind them to perpetual servitude. It is based on a self-examination which has ultimately led them to believe that by seeking to run away from themselves and emulate the white man, they are insulting the intelligence of whoever created the black. The philosophy of Black Consciousness therefore expresses group pride and the determination of the black to rise and attain the servitude and freedom is the ability to define oneself with one's possibilities held back not by the power of other people over one but only by one's relationship to God and to natural surroundings. On his own, therefore, the Black Man wishes to explore his surroundings and test his possibilities. He does not want to make his freedom real by whatever means he deems fit. At the

THE CHANGING CITY

a Special Report on London's
financial Square Mile
and its future



Phil Sayer

Durable symbol of a talent for markets

by George Cyriax

On the long view appropriate to this survey, the City—short-hand for the service offered by the financial district of London—ranks as one of Britain's strongest and most durable institutions.

Figures give at best only half the answer for this, which has more to do with history and character. The British have a natural aptitude for markets, for setting

them up and making them work. The French *hôtel de ville*, standing at the hub of radiating avenues, is the creation of an essentially logical mind and culture.

The markets that the British have created, wherever they have gained economic influence, reflect a pragmatic view that, within limits, people of good will should be left to determine the allocation of resources by themselves. Largely unplanned, often actively anti-intellectual, these British market-places are the envy of those

who have tried, and normally failed, to imitate them. The main embodiment of the British talent for markets is the City, standing as it does at the centre of world activity in investment, insurance, banking, short and medium-term money flows, shipping and commodity trading. Events have disproved the proposition that the City's position in these markets had to do with fortunate historical accident.

In the 1950s, it might have been possible to argue that Britain's banking role rested on the use of sterling as a reserve currency: that its insurance and reinsurance business was vulnerable to the rise of other centres after their rebuilding after 1945 and that the use of London markets as price-setters for a wide range of commodities would soon be superseded by arrangements between big producers or by commodity cartels. In Britain's production of goods, this vulnerability to the tide of events has been only too clear. But the City's market in

banking funds is now firmly based on intermediation in dollars rather than sterling. Its insurance—and even more reinsurance—leadership is unchallenged; and price cartels, with certain notable exceptions, have rarely proved as durable as the market pricing in London they were meant to replace. There has been some erosion, and certainly more competition from the United States, but the strategic position of the London markets into the 1970s has mostly been held.

Figures show this, through the useful analysis of Britain's invisible (that is service) account in the balance of payments conducted by the Committee on Invisible Exports. In 1976, the City's services earned net foreign exchange of £1,700m, so providing a vital offset against the chronic deficit on Britain's trade in goods. In this surplus, the largest net earner (£740m) was insurance and insurance broking. This was followed, in descending order, by banking (£408m), commodities (£201m), the Baltic Exchange (£147m) and various other forms of brokerage.

On a wider plane, Britain was the world's second largest invisible earner in 1976 (after the United States) and the most dependent of all the larger industrial countries on invisible receipts within its total balance of payments. Taking financial and commodity services alone, Britain's surplus was greater than the net earnings of all other EEC countries combined, even before taking account of the large deficit of Western Germany in this sector.

As one looks ahead to the future, the City's strength has been in innovation, which is just as difficult a matter in the provision of services as in the manufacture of goods. Two factors have been, and will remain, predominant in forcing innovation on the City—inflation (and the savings it has given to sterling) and scale.

It was sterling's weakness

and British inflation that led the merchant and overseas banks to innovate with Eurodollars and to pioneer the medium-term Eurodollar loan; it is equally inflation which is pushing the life companies to offer new forms of cover, first by moving away from non-profit policies and currently by adding emphasis to unlinked opportunities and to managed funds.

Scale has had an equivalent impact in other City markets. Insurance and reinsurance of gigantic risks, such as jumbo jets and North Sea oil rigs, has meant stretching and adapting traditional procedures and forms of contract so that unprecedented levels of catastrophe can be handled. The scale of international money markets has led to significant innovation in communications and dealing ability, for example by way of the Reuters Monitor screen.

With all these strengths, where are the wars which will be making the future less easy than the past? The intellectual critique of the City has been slow to materialize and consistently lacking in good policy ideas, but it has finally come to rest in two main areas—the instability of the City's operations introduced into the conduct of economic management ("stop-go") and the gross undervaluation of investment in domestic industry which is created by the international orientation of most British financial institutions.

Of these two areas of weakness, my judgment—and it can only be that—is that criticism of the City's financial institutions is the more

justified, will be more long-lasting and will have a more profound impact on performance and policy over the rest of the century. In truth, it is hard to take the attack on the City as a destabilizer of economic management very seriously, if only because the Bank of England has the weapons at its disposal to deal with this problem if it chose to use them.

But the confused policy objectives of many financial institutions, the lack of imagination they show in the fashioning and pricing of their services and above all the inadequacy that is becoming evident in the types of intermediation they offer between savings and investment in the domestic market are clear and worrying.

How, for example, are the 50 odd big pension funds going to reinvest a cash flow which has already reached £6,500m a year and which is forecast to reach £20,000m by 1985. By bidding up the secondary market in a 100-odd company securities against themselves? By driving the price of the narrow range of properties that meet their stringent rules to ridiculous levels? By buying gold?

Where is the social purpose in this, to replace the role of private entrepreneurs whose savings they have replaced? More fundamentally, what is meant by the ownership of industry when shares are held by insurance companies and pension funds (often of nationalized industries) which, for perfectly respectable reasons, do not wish to intervene in management except under extreme circumstances?

And what about the banks, often overmanned and over-branching, whose managers only as an exception grasp the ideas put forward to the Wilson committee by the American Bank Association of London—"the going-concern approach to lending which concentrates on customer's cash flow and management ability, rather than the liquidation approach which focuses on asset based security?"

Bank attitudes alone hardly account for Britain's slow growth, its reluctance to borrow medium term to finance investment, its unwillingness in many areas to enter a serious dialogue with lenders. But bank prejudice and practice are very real factors.

Here then is where new ideas are going to be needed if the City's markets are to maintain their vitality. Should pension funds provide more money for housing, as in Holland? What then should be their relationship to building societies? How should banks restrain and reorganize their branch network, when the pace-setter seems already to be emerging as Barclays?

Above all, how are all these lending institutions to make contact with a wider spectrum (in social as well as income terms) of domestic borrowers and enterprises to make a greater contribution to economic welfare and the wide use of the benefits of North Sea oil. It is a challenge worthy of the City's fine tradition.

The author is a director of Gower Press, economic and business publishers.

Deutsche Bank, a century of universal banking



by the complicated formalities of a takeover, or even by the first, tentative contacts. Perhaps you are planning a joint venture in a developing country and are made uncertain by the maze of tax laws and legislation that confront you. Perhaps you are looking for package financing, a Euro-loan combined with a bond issue – no problem for us, either, as a universal bank.

Don't expect us to do just the possible.

If you feel you have an insolvable problem, ask the Deutsche Bank. You can be sure of one thing: your search for an impossible answer is the kind of task we thrive on. In fact, as a universal bank, we think we can find your solution.

Perhaps you are considering the acquisition of a company abroad and are put off

Our experts in all parts of the world have made it their job to see that the complicated transactions that you thought might be too complicated actually do go through.

It is the accumulated experience in universal banking which has taught our people to objectively appraise the possible and the impossible.



Deutsche Bank

London Branch, P.O. Box 441, 10, Moorgate, London EC2P 2AT, Tel. (01) 606 4422

Exchange faces challenge from within

by Christopher Wilkins

The Stock Exchange is no stranger to criticism from without. For years it has grown used to living with allegations from unsympathetic outsiders that it is nothing more than a casino, or, even worse, that it is a casino where only those on the inside have a chance of winning.

Such claims are far from dead, although the exchange has been moving some way towards countering this latter complaint by tightening up on its own internal regulatory structure. But it is now having to face up to a potentially much more damaging threat to its traditional style of operation because it comes from within, from among those who are fundamental supporters of what the Stock Exchange stands for.

At issue is the whole nature of the system under which shares are traded in the stock market. Basic questions are being asked about the jobbing and broking system, unique to Britain, focusing on whether the system can survive for much longer in its present form.

The essence of the British system for buying and sell-

ing shares is that it draws a distinction between principals and agents. At one time there was some merging of the two functions on practical stock exchanges, but the consolidation of all the exchanges into one has created a structure under which brokers, acting as agents for clients, and jobbers, acting as principals and making a market in shares, are for-

bidden to perform both functions at once. Recently it has become increasingly clear that this system can impose strains, particularly upon the jobbers. The number of jobbing firms has fallen from 100 in 1960 to 20 now, the reduction being highlighted by the proposal in August of two of the big five firms, Smith, Bishop, and Bisgood, to merge.

The Stock Exchange made no secret of its regret at the deal, but was equally obliged to accept the facts of life and duly gave its approval. However, only shortly afterwards it announced the setting-up of a committee to look into the future of the jobbing system. At the same time the Government has opened the way to an investigation of the system by referring the merger to the Monopolies Commission.

The question of competition, and whether there are now enough jobbers to make a proper market, is one issue

to be looked at, although the jobbers themselves argue that reduction in the number of firms has not brought a reduction in competitiveness.

More fundamental is the question of how well equipped the jobbing system is to withstand a market increasingly dominated by institutions and in which international share trading is assuming growing importance.

Successful jobbing depends essentially upon contrary thinking among investors. When there are many investors, all reaching different decisions on buying and selling, it is fairly straightforward for jobbers to adjust their long and short positions according to the way they see the market moving. Their problems arise when there is sudden, violent movement, all going the same way.

Such was the case at the end of July when the severing of the link between the pound and the dollar was seen by investors as the occasion for heavy buying of shares. Because during the subsequent weeks there was so much buying and so little selling regardless of the rise in prices the jobbers, who were short of stock at the outset, found it almost impossible to get the stock needed to keep pace. At

the time the *Financial Times* index rose by more than 100 points in six weeks, the

jobbers as a whole almost certainly lost money on their equity trading.

Arguably the only way jobbers could be expected to cope in such circumstances would be for them to hold larger books but that would in turn require them to have much bigger capital to cover the enlarged risk. The issue of whether jobbers are undercapitalized is thus a central one.

The other main area in which the future of the jobbing system is under review is in the international equity markets. During the past two or three years British jobbers have watched, with a growing sense of frustration, the progressive appropriation of their foreign business by the big American brokerage houses. The American broking system, unlike the British, operates on a "dual capacity" basis, that is, a firm can both make a market and act as an agent for buyers and sellers.

To a large extent jobbers blame the loss of business on the rule requiring British investors to surrender 25 per cent of the dollar premium when they sell overseas securities. The resultant drop in international business earlier this year prompted Smith Brothers, London's sole jobber in gold shares, unsuccessfully to seek to broaden its trading base by obtaining Stock Exchange permission to deal

directly in gold shares with some non-member firms such as American brokers.

The success of the foreign brokers in taking a rising share of the market in which London has traditionally been so strong has inevitably raised the question of whether British jobbers are at a fundamental competitive disadvantage by not having dual capacity status.

It is not only the jobbing system which has come under the microscope, however. At the beginning of this month the Office of Fair Trading revealed that it was starting a major investigation into the working of the Stock Exchange which, besides looking into the separation of the broking and jobbing systems, will concentrate also on the question of whether fixed brokerage commissions operate as an undesirable restrictive practice.

The Stock Exchange is vigorously opposed to any change in the present system, pointing out that it fixed commissions, abolished the British market will inevitably go the way of the American market, where the advent of negotiated rates two years ago created a serious financial crisis for many small brokers and a significant reduction in their number.

The author is Deputy Financial Editor, *The Times*.

Test for banks' ability to survive

by Ronald Pullen

For a business that has always preferred to do things in its own way and at its own usually restrained pace, the British banking system has had to cope in the past decade with more than enough deep-seated changes to the way it operates to last most clearing-bankers a lifetime.

Even so, the banking system is likely to see just as many changes in the years to come. They may be more subtle than such radical departures as the competition and credit control policy introduced in 1971 or even the implications of publishing the clearing banks' true profits for the first time, which forced the clearers to pay much closer attention to earnings. But they will nevertheless test both the clearing and merchant banks' "protean capacity to survive".

The nature of the challenges that are likely to stimulate change, however, will be rather different from those prevailing in the 1960s. Then the clearers in particular came under attack from various quarters—not least from Lord Cromer when Governor of the Bank of England, the old Prices and Incomes Board and the Monopolies Commission.

These common refrain was that the banks were in one way or another leading a sheltered existence.

And indeed, prevented from competing on interest rates, the clearers did to a large extent lead a comfortable life on the back of the generally high level of Bank rate prevailing during the period.

But the competitive climate has become much hotter in the 1970s, and while the clearers have managed to

consolidate their position as the fulcrum of the financial system they are having to run considerably faster to stand still. For the most part this has resulted in a rapid expansion of ancillary financial services such as hire purchase, leasing, factoring, insurance and fund management. But, perhaps even more importantly, it has meant a considerable expansion of the clearers' overseas interest—either, like Lloyds and Barclays, by fusing an existing fairly disparate overseas operation, or like Midland, which has preferred to buy its way into foreign banking groups.

The demands of the international market will in all probability continue to occupy a lot of management time, since despite building up their retail operations abroad the British clearers still have to make the same impression in the fast-growing Eurocurrency markets as their Swiss or German counterparts.

At home, however, the clearing banks could well find the next few years a time of more defensive change. Most fundamental is the whole structure of their branch network, which grew in the 1960s as a result of the bank mergers that took place then and the fact that the growth of branches, and so of deposits, were the only real yardstick for performance while the banks refused to disclose their true profits.

Now, in a period when interest rates are low and could well remain so with North Sea oil, the cost-effectiveness of this network is increasingly difficult to justify. But the branch system is just one area where the banks are looking closely at cutting costs. In an increasingly unionized industry where labour is around 70 per cent of total costs, the clearers are having to review carefully their whole clearing structure and the days are probably now past when

they can afford to provide certain services free as loss leaders.

But the competitive winds are blowing in other directions as well. On the deposit front, the clearers are fighting a losing battle against the building societies and National Savings, both of whom have increased their share of total deposits in recent years.

Indeed, over the next few years one of the main political battles that the clearers will have to fight is to try to reduce to a minimum the tax advantages of the building societies in particular, to be on a level footing and able to compete with other deposit taking institutions.

On the lending front, too, the clearers have begun to find the going much harder. American and other foreign banks, with their greater access to the wholesale money markets and without an expensive branch network to support, have become aggressive lenders to the corporate sector.

Already this has forced the clearers to abandon largely their reliance on overdraft rates as the benchmark for corporate borrowers and replace these with more competitive packages.

The clearers have also begun to tailor their lending to industry to its more specific demands for medium-term funds. Increasingly, however, as the institutional arrangements for channelling finance to industry come under the microscope (as they are at the moment with the Wilson Committee), the pressure will be on the clearers to provide longer-term funds or even provide equity participation. In turn this raises complex problems about the deposit structure of the clearers and whether they should seek to attract more stable funds.

Yet there is one area where the clearers are fairly clear about where they want to be, even if the route is

a little hazy, and that is further down the road to what has become known as "electronic banking".

Broadly speaking, this means replacing the physical movement of cash, cheques and other money transmission methods with computer-assisted techniques.

The nightmare of the banks is that they will become drowned in a sea of paper. Even with direct debiting, credit cards and so on, about 98 per cent of all money transactions still involve cash and over the next decade the number of cash transactions is expected at least to double.

Apart from these internal challenges, the banks also face the possibility of a number of external shocks. The nationalisation threat has passed for the moment but it remains an integral part of Labour Party policy; harmonization of EEC banking regulations has also been deferred time and time again but will have to be faced at some stage. At home there is the prospect of Britain's first proper banking laws after last year's White Paper on The Licensing and Supervision of Deposit-Taking Institutions.

Both clearing and merchant banks have shown their mettle in the past, and there is little reason to believe that they will not be up to the new challenges of the future.

The author is Banking Correspondent, The Times.

Abolition threat recedes with Tories at County Hall

by Christopher Warman

The existence of the City of London as a local government authority is in no doubt at present. The Conservative administration at County Hall strongly opposes the Labour Party view that the Corporation should be abolished.

Although abolition is now official Labour policy, it is unlikely that this Government will even consider any reform.

In the long term, the threat could well be renewed—but a Labour campaign to wipe the Corporation off the municipal map has been rumbling along since early this century.

In 1917, Herbert Morrison, founding father of Labour's traditional opposition to the City Corporation, declared rudely that the time had come to face up to its "pretentious buffoonery".

"The City is an administrative anachronism, and in our scheme of London's government we must consider twentieth century needs as well as tenth century history," he said.

The City is an administrative anachronism, and in our scheme of London's government we must consider twentieth century needs as well as tenth century history," he said.

back to their homes in Surrey and Kent while Londoners got on with the job of running their city.

Such emotive language masks perhaps the seriousness of the Labour Party, whose 1976 conference endorsed a policy which said: "The City should be brought under modern democratic local government and its wealth and income used for the benefit of all Londoners."

It went on to state: "The square mile of the City of London is the last refuge of ancient pre-democratic local government. Immensely rich in realisable value, its finances are controlled by the Court of Common Council and the aldermen who are elected, not only by the 5,000 residents but also by the 8,400 business voters, and used to sustain a tiny unit of local government which is really neither viable, efficient nor responsible."

Labour's reasons for the campaign to abolish the City, fully aired at a GLC meeting earlier this year, are threefold. They claim that the City is not paying as much as it should towards the cost of running London.

Anticipating the City's answer that it already contributes an enormous amount to both the GLC and the Inner London Education Authority, they argue that with a tenth of the realisable value of London and only a

thousandth of the population the City is in no position to complain.

The second objection is that the City appears to speak on behalf of all Londoners. The Lord Mayor is widely regarded as London's number one citizen, yet he represents 13,000 electors, while the GLC's chairman represents seven million.

Third is the claim that there is an almost total lack of democracy within the City. There are 5,000 residential voters and 8,000 business voters, although elsewhere the business vote was abolished in 1969. Why is there not a business vote for the 500,000 office workers who come into the City daily and really create its wealth, they ask. In addition, because of the electoral boundaries, 66 per cent of the residential voters are represented by only 12 per cent of the councillors.

February 3 this year was the historic date when the GLC finally voted to end the existence of the City. The decision was sent to the Government with a request for legislation to implement it—since when it has been lost without trace.

In the past the City was diffident about defending itself, as if the whole matter was beneath contempt. More recently however, the City's leaders have realized the seriousness of the threat, and some fighting when the challenge is renewed.

Led mainly by Mr Norman Hall, the City Corporation points out that it contributes

more per square foot in rates than any other local authority in Britain.

Of the £162m collected in rates last year most went to the GLC and the Inner London Education Authority, leaving just £23m for its own services of housing, libraries, police, roads and cleansing, health, social services and town development. The City does not complain about its contribution, but resents the accusation that it is hoarding its riches.

Mr Hall, Chairman of the Corporation's policy committee, believes firmly that the Mayorality is one of the nation's most potent international assets, and that the Corporation is democratic, if different.

Defending the use of the business vote, he says: "The business interests of this capital city would be irretrievably harmed if the only interference by the residents were those of the residents."

There is no doubt that the Corporation did its cause lessing harm over the refusal of the Court of Aldermen in 1974 to accept Mrs Edwina Coven as the first woman among their number after she had been elected by her ward members. Whatever the rights and wrongs, and despite the subsequent election of Lady Donaldson as an alderman, that decision smacked more of the exclusive club rather than democracy at work, and was never satisfactorily explained.

It was this that helped to give momentum to the latest anti-City campaign, but even now there is no clear idea of what would be done with the Corporation if it were abolished.

One suggested solution is to make the area the responsibility of a GLC committee; this scarcely answers the call for more local democracy. Such a solution moreover would be incompatible with the increasing pressure on the GLC—and the avowed intention of the Conservatives—to confine its role to that of a truly strategic authority, leaving the management of local services to the borough tier.

The alternative would be to cut the area into pieces and hand them round to neighbouring boroughs, which would cause a great squabble.

It is by no means certain that all the boroughs would want their share.

The campaign has nevertheless now reached further than before, with its acceptance as Labour policy, and there it will stay for the present. The Corporation can and does call on the financial City to form a powerful lobby against any change. As long as the City remains the centre of national and international finance, the Corporation surely has an assured future.

The author is Local Government Correspondent, The Times.

When the business answers fall into place, that's teamwork.

Your sales director can sell them.
Your production director can make them. Your transport director can deliver them.
But can you afford them?
Talk to your local Midland Bank manager and see how his team can give your team the answers.

Your problems may be anywhere between cashflow at home and documentary letters of credit from buyers overseas.
You'll find your local Midland manager can call on a team whose answers may include factoring to speed up your cashflow; leasing to accelerate expansion plans;

export finance to bridge the gap between manufacturing and getting paid; even vetting local agents in your principal foreign markets and insuring your products till they get there.

Your local Midland manager can help you answer all these business questions, and more. He gains additional strength from Midland Bank Group, a powerful team of companies specialising in businesslike solutions for industry.

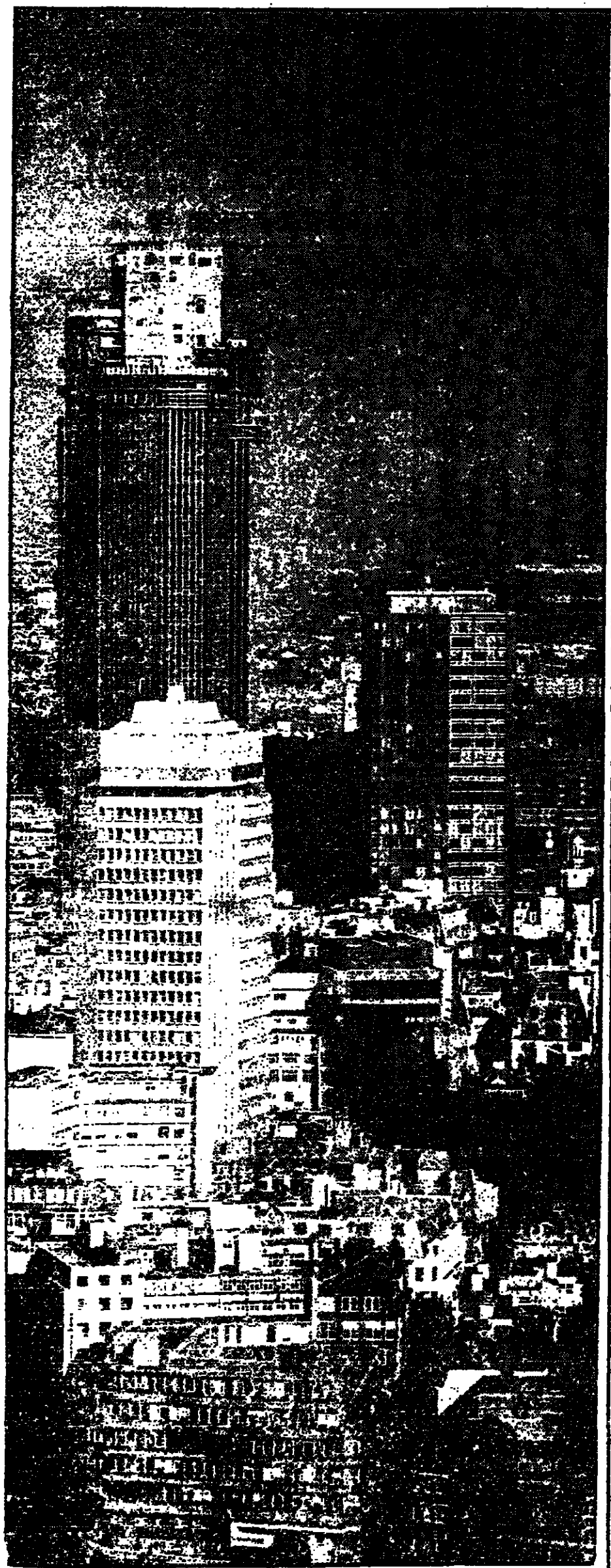
And they're all as accessible to your business team as a call to your local Midland Bank.

It's time your business team met the Midland's



Midland Bank

Midland Bank Limited



The long and the short of it... a close up of part of the panorama on the facing page. The pictures were taken from Guy's Hospital.

'Anachronism' confounds its critics and expands

by Nicholas Hirst

Lloyd's insurance market, on the surface, has no right to exist in 1977, never mind prosper. It is an anachronism depending on private wealth at a time when fortunes are dwindling and investment is being taken over by huge institutions. It depends on individual flair for decision making, which elsewhere is increasingly being submerged beneath technological innovation and bureaucracy, and to some extent it depends on London's reputation as a financial centre, which is ever more under attack from rivals the world over.

Yet the statistics speak for themselves. The growth of Lloyd's recently has outstripped all expectations. It is ever more popular as a means for investment for the rich that are left, it has survived the financial crisis of the mid-1970s that threat-

ened to engulf even the composites as well as its exposure to the sagging marine market, and it made an underwriting profit for 1974, the last year for which its books are now closed, despite the dismal underwriting climate of the time.

So confident is Lloyd's of its future that six leading architects have recently been asked to draw up a scheme to provide additional underwriting space. This will be the third time since the First World War that Lloyd's has outgrown its surroundings. The building it moved into in 1928 lasted until 1958, when the move was made across Lime Street to what is always referred to as the "new building".

Now, despite increasing use of the available floor space the area is beginning to prove too small for the continuing expansion of business and underwriting syndicates. The architects are looking at the "old building" which

at present houses administration, although some staff has already been moved out of the City. A redevelopment of both buildings poses immense problems. A solution will undoubtedly be found, but that it is needed could hardly have been envisaged a decade or so ago.

In the 1960s many people thought Lloyd's could not survive much longer. A poor performance had frightened new capital; private wealth in any case seemed to be on the decline and the sheer muscle, computer-powered research and skills available to the composites appeared likely to win business away from Lloyd's.

Premium income of Lloyd's in 1948 was £126m. After another decade, at the time of the move across Lime Street, it had more than doubled to £301m. Within the next three years it had doubled again, but then as the fears grew that its capital would not be able to keep pace with a growing insur-

ance market, the growth slowed. In 1970 premium income was £787m; then the rapid inflation that was beginning to come through pushed premium income to £1,191m in 1973 and by the following year had leapt again to £1,539m—a growth in the 1970s that has far outstripped inflation.

The growth is not easily explained. The marine market had not seriously declined three years ago, but tanker losses in 1976, and since then air disasters and other horrors which have hit the composite market must have affected business.

But the all important providers of private capital, the "names" of Lloyd's who have proved possession of at least £75,000 (or £37,500 for the so-called mini-members), and sound unlimited liability to underwrite risks, keep flooding in. At the beginning of 1977 a record 2,300 new names were taken on, bringing the Lloyd's mem-

bership to 10,670, and there are now 5,000 applications awaiting decision. As long as the capital comes in, underwriting can continue to grow, but only if Lloyd's can remain competitive and continue to make profits.

It is skill in pricing new kinds of business that gives Lloyd's its best chance of keeping ahead in an increasingly competitive world. It was Lloyd's that devised the first policy to cover an "air-cushion vehicle". The odd terminology refers to hovercraft, which fell between the aviation and marine markets. Also it has been able to make up some of the poor premium income on the marine side by insurance of North Sea risks. At first, claims experience was bad but Lloyd's stuck with it, and it has now proved profitable and is a significant part of many marine underwriters' business.

Likewise the development of the reinsurance business is keeping Lloyd's in the

forefront of developments. Here its advantage over the traditional reinsurer is that the Lloyd's underwriter will probably also write direct risks, which enables him to assess the potential reinsurance risk from his own experience.

This is particularly valuable in dealing with the "excess loss" kind of contract, which Lloyd's has pioneered and which allows the underwriter to judge himself what the premium should be instead of merely taking a slice from the direct insurer.

Thus Lloyd's will survive as long as there are wealthy men prepared to risk their all (although the likelihood of the risk being called is thin indeed) for the benefits of making their money work twice, as long as it has underwriters with the entrepreneurial instincts to write competitive business, and as long as new risks come along requiring new kinds of cover.

Commodities producers seek to negotiate from strength

by Wallace Jackson

Although London commodity prices have presented an up-down, up-down pattern of incessant change in the past decade, the degree of change in the markets themselves has been minimal.

However, two factors—increasing unrest among producers in the developing countries and concern about the degree of speculation in the markets—will almost certainly bring change.

The grievance of the Third World producers is in essence simple: many of them are entirely dependent on raw materials to sustain their internal economies and earn foreign exchange and they maintain that the developed world has for too long been obtaining materials which cannot be replaced too cheaply.

But not only do they seek what they consider a fairer price for their raw materials to leave a reasonable margin after costs of production have been covered but they also want

to move into the sphere of processing and manufacturing their own primary products so that first the industrial wealth is more evenly spread and second so that they can move towards being developed rather than developing countries.

These aspirations are not new, but enormous impetus has been provided by the success of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) in forming a producers' cartel which has held the oil consuming world to ransom by controlling both supplies and prices.

It follows that producers of other raw materials are anxious and would like to place themselves in a similarly strong position.

The stumbling block is that with almost all other raw materials besides oil there is either the danger of driving consumers towards the use of substitutes—aluminium for copper; plastics for tin; synthetic rubber for natural rubber and so on—or, particularly in the case of "soft" com-

modities (coffee, cocoa or sugar), creating resistance to the use of the product, as has been seen with coffee and chocolate.

But if the creation of outright cartels is for a variety of reasons, including lack of cohesion among producers, too difficult to achieve in most cases, there remains the possibility of international agreements with consuming countries.

Although there are already pacts covering coffee, cocoa, sugar and wheat, the model for supporters of such agreements has always been the International Tin Agreement (ITA) which has operated for 20 years.

But even here the course has become anything but smooth with some participating producers, notably Bolivia, complaining that the price levels under the latest version of the pact, which has operated since January 1, are unrealistic. That consuming nations should be compelled to contribute to the International Tin Council's buffer stock to which producer members

must subscribe, and that the important producer, Malaysia, and the important consumer, the United States, have too much influence in the Tin Council.

To add to the difficulties, the ITC has for some months been unable to regulate the tin market, buying when the price is low and selling when it is high, because there has been no tin in the buffer stock and the Malaysian price has been consistently well above the ceiling under the ITA.

Nevertheless, there is great pressure for the formation of further international agreements and at the centre of such activity stands the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) which sponsors an integrated commodity price stabilization programme.

Under this programme there would be pacts between producers and consumers for individual commodities backed by a common fund which would supply the cash for buffer stocks, where suitable.

The impact of these nego-

tiations on the City of London's commodity markets lies more in what might happen should they fail than in effects if they succeed.

Failure to reach agreement with the consuming nations would not mean that the Third World producers would quietly go away. They would strive to resolve their differences and it would be only a matter of time before producer cartels in copper, tin and other key commodities were set up.

Moves in the East to establish commodity markets would gain momentum and it is not difficult to envisage London losing its supremacy as the world centre for commodity trading and pricing.

The second important area of concern so far as the City is concerned is the growth in recent years of speculation in commodities and the futures markets by investors seeking a hedge against inflation, taxation and changes in exchange rates.

Speculation in moderation is recognized as a necessary part of commodity market operations and if attempts were made to eliminate it

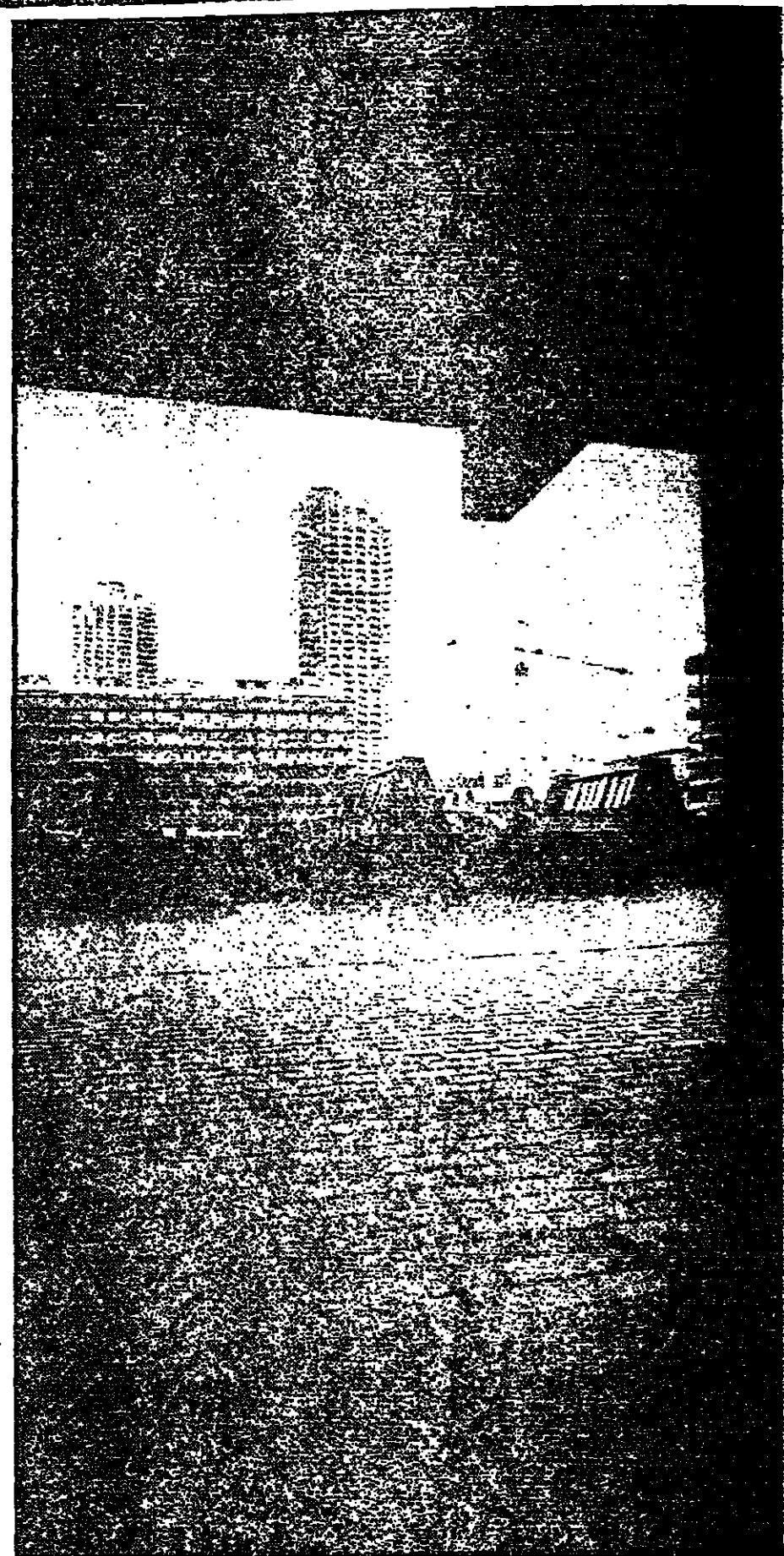
entirely, the result would be that the market would move to a country in which it was allowed.

But some alarm has been created by a substantial flow of new money into commodities, much of it from inexperienced investors who operate on rumour rather than analysis.

In fact, the London markets are supervised by the Bank of England which, through the medium of special reports and with the co-operation of the markets themselves, keeps a close eye on speculation, advising where action is seen to be needed. In the future this supervision will probably become tighter.

One change the city will probably see soon is a modification of the London Metal Exchange's traditional method of trading by principal's contract, under which dealing is between one member and another without the intervention of a clearing house.

The author is Commodities Editor, The Times.



The geometric shapes of the Barbican development. The original intention, to bring back life to the Square Mile, has not been realized in the wider sense.

Making the right decisions depends on having the right connections.

And the right connections are particularly important when it comes to arranging international corporate finance and foreign exchange.

Bank of Tokyo have almost a century of experience in making life easier for the businessman.

For instance, we have branches and connections spanning the length and breadth of five continents.

And we have a reputation for being one of the world's leading specialists in serving the needs of international business.

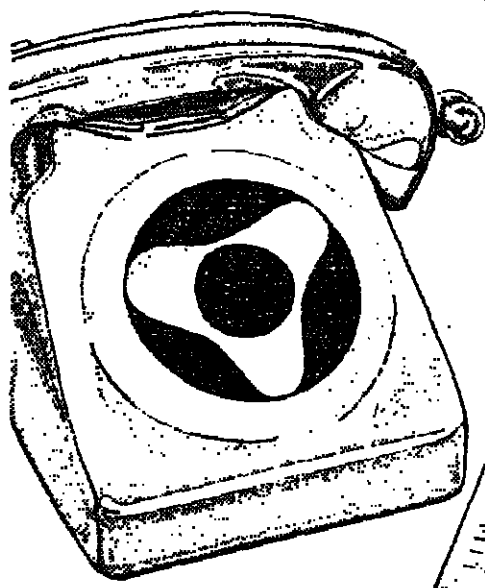
Once you've got Bank of Tokyo working with you, operating on a worldwide basis can be a much smoother and more profitable business.



BANK OF TOKYO

London Offices: 20-21 Mincing Lane, London EC3R 6DH. Tel: 01-638 1271 and 11 Hanover Square, London W1R 9KD

Your international connection



by Alan Hamilton

There are, according to City Corporation statistics, four unskilled manual workers living in the Barbican. Hardly a typical proportion out of the 6,000 residents of the City's only major housing scheme, but then the City of London is a highly untypical housing authority.

At least part of the original conception of the Barbican was to bring back some life to the Square Mile whose daytime working population of 350,000 dwindles to a mere 7,500 going to bed within its boundaries at night. But the kind of life it has brought back perhaps what was envisaged. A retired civil servant who lives there remarked: "The Barbican was built for the senior clerks, but the principals have moved in."

Like any other local authority, the City Corporation has certain housing obligations, although in this case they are probably less than anywhere else. Apart from the Barbican, which is populated by tenants who could just as easily live elsewhere (indeed one tenth of them have second homes), the City has some 2,000 tenants, housed largely outside its own boundaries. There is one small scheme of traditional council accommodation in Middlessex Street, but the City's main provision for essential tenants is in schemes at Kennington and Holloway.

Those eligible for the City's housing register fall into three categories: existing City residents; those who work in the City and have a genuine housing or medical need; and key workers in essential City services. The waiting list is tiny compared with other London boroughs.

By the end of the century the size and composition of the City's tiny permanent population are unlikely to be greatly different from what they are today, except that the proportion of manual workers may decrease even further. The background study on population and housing now circulating as part of the City development plan asks questions and offers options, but gives no answers. Some trends, however, are already evident. First, it is inordinately expensive to build houses in this crowded and priceless square mile of land, so much so that few schemes in the

area could ever qualify for central government housing grants. This explains the unusually high density (240 persons per acre) and high rents of the Barbican.

Second, there is almost no room left, except for one small site awaiting development at Long Lane. Nothing short of another great fire will ever turn it back into a predominantly residential area.

Third, there is a large body of feeling within the City Corporation in favour of devoting all the City's resources to servicing the dominant industries of finance. One senior City official commented: "If we were just part of another London borough, nobody would ever dream of building houses here."

Fourth, there is a belief that demand for essential housing will diminish. Even the traditional manufacturing industries of the City, like printing, are slowly moving away. And no longer are there armies of charwomen to clean the offices; nowadays it is done by firms on contract, with workers being collected by van at a central and possibly distant depot. Besides, much essential City work, like street cleaning and building maintenance, is done at night, reducing even more the need for those involved to live in the immediate neighbourhood.

There is also a not insubstantial stock of additional housing which barely concerns the City planners and adds little to the social life of the area. These are the private flats and penthouses atop City office blocks for the exclusive use of senior executives who miss their last train or find other reasons to stay in town. The City fathers refer to them slightly disparagingly, as "filter tip planning"—little bits of housing on the end of vast commercial blocks.

The trouble with building houses is that you cannot just build houses. People need schools and shops and open spaces to walk their dogs, all of which are scarce in the City. Residents of the Barbican are lucky; there is a school almost directly across the street, but it happens to be over the border in Islington. This lack of room for essential facilities would seem to militate against any further residential development in the area.

The need to build at such high density has meant that the Barbican itself is hardly

over-endowed with the usual facilities of living. There are some shops, a few more are promised, and those who explore its inner corridors will even find a lawn or two, but for rents which extend from £750 to £3,445 a year, one could reasonably expect a slightly better quality of life.

The Barbican is often compared unfavourably with the development at St Katharine's Dock, just outside the City limits at Tower Bridge. The comparison is unfair: St Katharine's Dock has the advantage of an unusual and attractive riverside location, and it is said to be much more expensive even than the Barbican.

The response to the City's background study may throw up a different set of priorities, although the public meetings already held to discuss the future shape of the City have drawn disappointing attendances. Already about to be occupied by a school, there are signs that a greater

proportion of hostel-type accommodation for single professional workers would be welcomed.

There is also some suggestion that the City may have been rather too ready to dismiss the needs of low-paid key workers. Even within the corporation itself, there are some officials who feel that the order of priorities should be low-paid essential workers first, hostels for the single professionals second, and market-rate accommodation for money-earning classes last.

Whatever kind of people they feel they should be housing, the City fathers lost an opportunity to create some delightful residential development along the riverside. After all, of the two sites which have been vacant in recent years, one is now covered by the Post Office international telephone building, and the other is about to be occupied by a school.

Barbican remains an enclave for the privileged

Gill & Duffus
Group Limited

Merchants and Brokers
in cocoa, coffee, sugar,
tea, edible nuts, dried fruit,
canned goods, grain,
rubber, metals
and chemicals.

Overseas subsidiaries and associates in:
New York · Toronto · Bahia · Rio de Janeiro · Accra
Takoradi · Paris · Geneva · Hamburg · Hong Kong
Singapore · Kuala Lumpur · Munich · Sydney

St. Dunstan's House,
201 Borough High Street,
London, S.E.1.

WIGGLESWORTH
& CO. LIMITED

AND OVERSEAS SUBSIDIARIES

One of the world's leading distributors of
VEGETABLE FIBRES AND FIBRE PRODUCTS
MACHINERY EXPORTERS

WIGGLESWORTH (INSURANCE) LIMITED, INSURANCE BROKER.

30-34 MINCEING LANE LONDON EC3

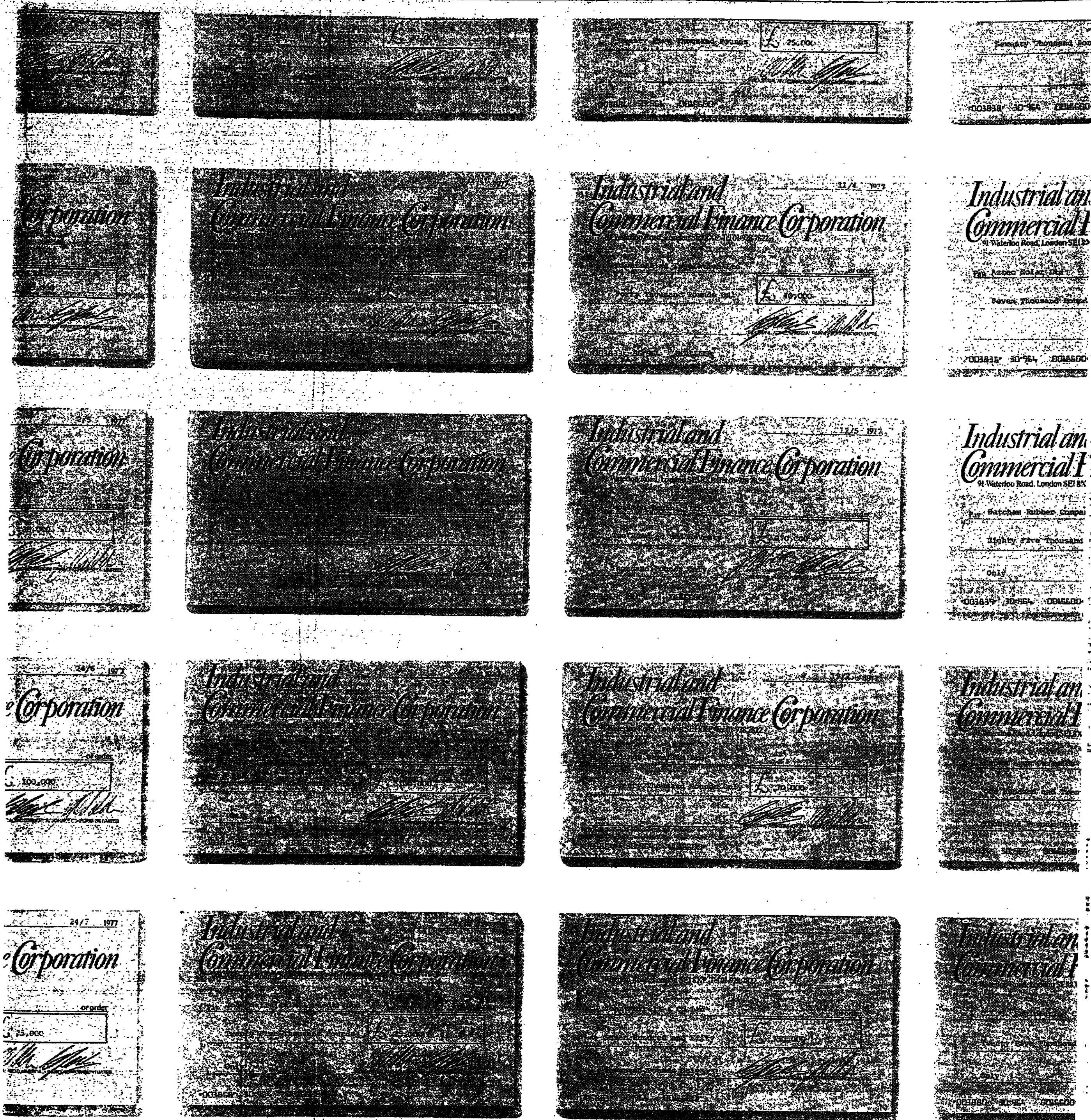
Telephone 01-626 6471 Telex 883760

G. C. WILLIAMS & CO. LTD.

Suppliers of raw materials to the food trade

24-25 MARK LANE LONDON EC3R 7DZ

TELEPHONE 01-623 2931 TELEX 883760



Who says it's difficult for smaller businesses to raise money at the moment?

The fact is, we've offered £42 million to 350 businesses in the last six months alone.

That's £1¼ million a week. Or £350,000 a day. Or £50,000 every working hour.

And there's plenty more where that came from.

If you're running a business that could use between £5,000 and £2 million (or even more), why haven't we met?

We can provide equity finance, fixed-interest loan finance or a combination of both.

And give you between seven and twenty years to pay back the loan.

Meanwhile, we won't appoint one of our staff to your board.

And we certainly won't lean on you to sell out, even if we're one of your shareholders.

Because our business is, simply and solely, to help Britain's smaller businesses do more business.

We were set up in 1945 by the Clearing Banks and the Bank of England for that specific purpose.

And given the rather forbidding title of the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation.

Our track record runs to over £480 million invested in more than 4,500 companies. With £56 million of that currently invested in 800 companies as equity finance.

All over the country there are companies that

have extended factories and installed new plant with ICFC help.

Financed sales at home and abroad with ICFC help.

Increased their share capital base and prepared for CTT with ICFC help.

We doubt if they've got anything you haven't. Apart from our money.

ICFC

The smaller business's biggest source of long-term money.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED. ABERDEEN 0224 53028. BIRMINGHAM 021 236 9531. BRIGHTON 0273 24391. BRISTOL 0272 292081. CAMBRIDGE 0223 62126. CARDIFF 0222 34021. EDINBURGH 031 226 3885. GLASGOW 041 221 4456. LEEDS 0532 30511. LEICESTER 0533 26854. LIVERPOOL 051 236 2944. LONDON 01 928 7822. MANCHESTER 061 833 9511. NEWCASTLE 0632 815221. NOTTINGHAM 0602 47691. READING 0734 861943. SHEFFIELD 0142 664561. SOUTHAMPTON 0703 32044.

WE DO NOT REVEAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CUSTOMERS WITHOUT THEIR PERMISSION. WE'RE THEREFORE GRATEFUL TO THE COMPANIES ABOVE FOR THEIR HELP IN PRODUCING THIS ADVERTISEMENT.

Intervention grows with the economy

by John Whitmore

The directness of the relationship may be questionable, but the rapid growth in the size and activity of the financial sector since the early 1960s has run in parallel with a steady shift in the centre of political gravity in Britain towards the left and interventionism. The result has been that the financial community now finds itself almost permanently in the public dock. It was put there first in the late 1960s on charges of merger mania and asset stripping. Next it was held responsible for the boom, and then the bust, in property, secondary banking and secondary insurance. Finally came the charge of national subversion through

the spread of manic depression and the financial starvation of industry.

Throughout all this, the bankers have come under fire every time sterling has lurched, the building societies have consistently managed to displease someone, and there has been a steady stream of individual causes célèbres of every description—and some, apparently, beyond it.

It is little surprise, then, that over the years a political noose has been cast around the financial community. From time to time there have been tugs on the rope, but as yet nobody has had the inclination to spring the trapdoor.

Paris of the Labour Party have pressed hard for just that, but the Government itself has resisted equally

firmly. It has known that the Labour movement as a whole is anything but united on the scale and type of financial sector intervention that might be appropriate. It has been preoccupied with more important issues and it has had the sense to realize that there is more electoral mileage in intermittently kicking the electorate's copy and sense of "social justice" than, for instance, in reminding the elector that wholesale intervention would put his savings and his credit rating in the hands of Big Brother.

Over and above that, both politicians and civil servants have still to come fully to grips with the size and the detail of the subject. Though a never-ending stream of reports, investigations and dialogues are

steadily completing a vast jigsaw of information.

The politicians know, moreover, that wholesale intervention might well face them with the possibility of an additional bill for the taxpayer and/or the possible loss of thousands of jobs. And they know, too, that state intervention could eventually destroy Britain's financial service industry's role as a significant foreign currency earner.

At the other end of the hangerman's rope, the financial community has itself been doing its utmost to prevent the rope from tightening. It has put an increasing amount of effort into keeping its house in order and abreast of the times. It has also put considerable effort into trying to persuade the public that, despite the

inevitable wars, it is not at heart the greedy ogre it is often portrayed to be. Rather, it is a highly professional industry that serves the community rather better than profligate governments and which, by and large, can regulate its affairs in the public interest rather better than a host of new bureaucratic appointees.

That said, it has found the going tough, largely for three reasons. First it has, at least until recently, found precious little support in the political arena. Secondly, the disparate nature of the financial sector has made it ideal for attack but difficult to defend. Thirdly, the City, whatever its other skills, has been slow to learn the techniques of mass propaganda.

Where, then, is the issue of intervention likely to go

from here? A great deal obviously depends on the outcome of the next election. A clear Labour victory, particularly if later followed by a switch of emphasis to the left once the Prime Minister steps down, would seriously produce a different pattern of development than a Conservative win.

Meanwhile, the issue itself divides fairly neatly into three—regulation, the direction of funds and the role of the Bank of England.

As far as regulation goes, developments have come in a variety of ways. Self-regulation has seen the evolution of, for instance, the Takeover Panel and a greater volume of Stock Exchange practices. As for financial sector watchdogs, the Bank of England has become much

more vigilant, particularly in the wake of the secondary banking crisis. It is playing the central role in the development of a non-statutory board to oversee the securities industry.

On the governmental front, Whitehall has shown considerable interest in financial sector developments. It has taken an active interest in inflation accounting and has also joined in a joint advisory committee with the building societies. On the legislative front it has introduced the Policyholders Protection Act, affecting insurance companies, and the Companies (No 2) Act, affecting auditors. At some stage, and with the full approval of the self-regulating school, it will introduce legislation on inside dealing.

The direction of funds has two aspects to it—the posi-

tive pushing of funds towards politically chosen homes and the negative restriction on the free flow of funds. To date the latter has been more important, with the Monopolies Commission considerably narrowing the interpretation of what is an acceptable merger.

The more serious threat in the future, however, is clearly the positive direction of institutional funds. The capital markets have responded to the threat of words and the National Enterprise Board with initiatives of their own—building up Finance for Industry and creating Equity Capital for Industry, for instance. They will now be hoping that the Wilson Committee will finally lay the ghost of the need for, or the desirability of, political investment.

Finally, there is the crucial question of the future role of the Bank of England. At one extreme there are those who would like to see all its activities put firmly under Whitehall control. At the other are those who would like to see the Bank not only strengthened as an independent supervisory force in the financial sector but also given the central position in the determination of national monetary policy.

It may be that the politicians, when it comes to it, will show a marked reluctance to divest any further power and the Bank will merely go on drifting further into the public sector orbit. Alternatively, it might be given greater powers in one of the two areas but not the other. Which, only time will tell.

Fraud Squad is in business

by Clive Borrell

Not much more than a decade ago a visitor to London could have been forgiven for asking his guide: "Why are all these prosperous-looking City businessmen doffing their hats to that man walking ahead?" And the guide, if he knew anything about the City, would have been quick to answer: "Because he's the head of the Fraud Squad."

One lunch-time I fell into step with this man and felt somewhat embarrassed by the attention he was receiving.

It seems you cannot go anywhere without someone knowing you—doesn't it get you down when you go out

just for a casual stroll?"

"It doesn't worry me," he replied, "but it puts the fear of God into some of them when they see me. Many are genuine friends, but some are just wondering when I shall be feeling their collar. They are sailing so close to the wind they can expect a call at any time."

Times have changed but the respect is still there. The Metropolitan and City Police Company Fraud Department is now nearly 200 strong, with 60 of those officers based permanently in the City investigating £100m worth of alleged fraud. Less than a year ago the department's strength was 35.

Last year officers from the department travelled to

Switzerland, Germany, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein and the United States to investigate the foreign "ends" of City-based frauds.

Mr James Page, then Commissioner, wrote in his annual report: "The international scene is now very much more extensive, with companies registered abroad in countries whose records are sometimes difficult to obtain."

"The success that we do achieve in dealing with these cosmopolitan crimes is the result of excellent international cooperation between police forces."

However, each has to operate within its own laws which does create some difficulty. It is hoped that within the near future some

of these laws may be varied to facilitate the investigation of international crimes, particularly within the Common Market countries, to allow the freer movement of investigating officers. This is something which requires urgent attention by the Government if the international criminals are to be curbed."

In fact, during the last 12 months international cooperation has greatly improved, mainly as a result of personal contact with forces across the Channel and through Interpol.

The department has also lost the bowler hat image. Fraud department officers are now dressed in civilian clothes, with many more "villagers" than they were in the past. It is a common

occurrence to bump into a fraud department detective who is out waiting for "business" to come to them. They go where the people and the money are, listening, talking and gleefully snapping up information.

Their skill has reached a level where they can not only locate trouble for companies which trade dishonestly, but also have a shrewd suspicion about the close attention in the future, one senior member of the department said.

"Generally speaking we do not encounter the violence which is commonplace with other forms of crime. In fact, many of our clients are arrested by appointment at their solicitors' offices."

"The City still clings to its gentlemanly tradition although in a few cases we do set up 'fronts' in the City and protect them with stoutest."

"You don't need to be an accountant or a mathematician to be useful in the department. You just need the instincts of a good policeman," was told. "We can call on the professional help if required from our friends in the City so one does not need to be an expert in company affairs—

we need men with the good old-fashioned nose for the suspicious."

It would be wrong to think that the proliferation of computers in business fraud will mean becoming "computer cops". Most computer frauds are perpetrated by those who have access to computers in their normal daily work or those who gain access by dishonest means.

A computer fraud investigation is the same as any other. The machines do not commit fraud, it's the people who handle them who commit the crime," a department expert said.

"One cannot escape the fact, though, that in the next 10 years this type of crime will be a real headache in the City, as it is in the United States now."

"Computers are getting smaller and in time will be cheaper. While they are in the hands of big and

suspect business there will be no problem but our troubles will start when smaller groups of criminal organizations possess them."

One of the department's senior officers has just returned from a long and exhaustive course on computer crime organized by FBI fraud experts. The course not only highlighted the role of computers in fraud but also in industrial espionage and intrusion into privacy, both personal and corporate.

The implicit trust placed in the computer by some companies is now being questioned after the discovery of hopelessly inaccurate accounts published in good faith and honestly audited.

Many auditors and accountants are being sued for millions of dollars for preparing balance sheets which agree with the computer but disagree with the balance of capital held at the bank. It is clear in some of the cases that the computer has been "milked" and then doctored to give a false balance.

It is often said that some of the United States worst weather eventually falls in London. It is to be hoped that some of their present bad habits sink while crossing the Atlantic.

Reuters is proud to have served the City for more than 125 years through five reigns.

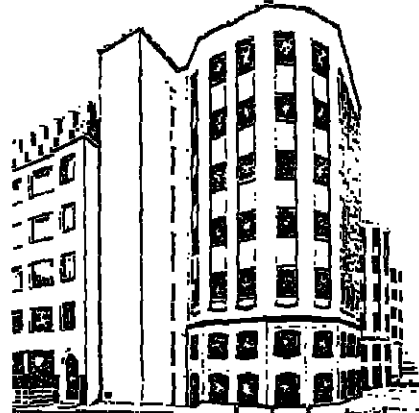


Statue of Paul Julius Reuter outside the Royal Exchange Buildings where he founded the agency in 1851.

REUTERS

Reuters Limited, 85 Fleet Street, London EC4P 4AJ. Telephone: 01-353 6060.

The changing face of London epitomised by its new riverside buildings
Broken Wharf House—a graphic example of new office premises designed and built for a changing London.



BROKEN WHARF HOUSE EC4
A new air-conditioned office building of outstanding architectural quality. Approx 37,000 sq. ft.

TO LET
Including banking hall, dining rooms and directors flats. Designed specifically to cater for the requirements of international banking concerns.

Healey & Baker
Established 1820 in London
115 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1AR
Telephone 01-425 4361
Associated Offices: PARIS BRUSSELS AMSTERDAM VIENNA

GARRETT, WHITE & POLAND
20 St. Andrew's Place, London EC4A 3DF
01-248 5771

by Nicholas Hirst

In some ways criticising accountants for the financial collapses and disorder of the mid-1970s is like complaining to the Meteorological Office over the weather or blaming lawyers for an increase in the rate of crime.

But accusations that accountancy failed to give sufficient warning of overstretched balance-sheets or that the standards they applied were not sufficiently stringent have held enough truth to cause the profession considerable embarrassment and encourage it to change its ways.

Only recently, however, has it begun to be generally understood that the compiling of balance-sheets, and the reporting of them is a very subjective task, and that any statement that says a set of figures represents a true and fair view is a statement of opinion, not of fact. It depends to a great extent on what standards have been applied in drawing up the figures.

In arriving somewhere near such a general understanding accountants have been harried from pillar to post. They were first criticised for inadequate standards, on which accounts should be drawn up, then for having the standards themselves attacked when they were drawn. They were criticised first for not reflecting the effects of inflation on accounts, then for reflecting inflation inadequately, then for making too complex proposals, and all the time for not doing any of it quickly enough.

The problems that have beset accountancy have been the same that have beset the economy and City institutions as a whole: inflation, a desire for more rigorous regulation of financial markets and greater disclosure of financial facts.

Whatever the causes, accountants have found themselves obliged to provide increasingly complex detail, when the figures they have had to work with have become more uncertain and the economic climate has

changed even more rapidly.

As accountancy can, for all practical purposes, be regarded as the basic profession of the City, it is extremely important that the profession regained a reputation for accuracy and good judgment, which it lost, not so much through its own fault, but because events moved so quickly to allow its cumbersome structure and the innate conservatism of many of its members, to react.

Although the profession still regards itself as being strong and stable, its house is beginning to look in better order than it has for some time. It is not good at public relations (though oddly it is often well advised) and tends to give criticism on itself by doing too little, too late, as the Institute of Chartered Accountants did recently in issuing pronouncements by its professional standards committee. This was an attempt to get a word in on discipline before the report by the eight-man committee, headed by Lord Cross of Chelsea, which was published on November 9.

It is too early to say whether the Cross recommendations will remove the threat of state-imposed control of the profession, but with the Department of Trade seemingly very reluctant to interfere with its affairs, and the profession itself almost paranoid in its desire to avoid any chance of it, the chances of it happening look ever unlikely.

But it is not the odd case of malpractice or negligence which has resulted in a company going broke with our warning that has disturbed the public so much as a feeling that accountants generally have not known what they were doing.

The appointment within the decade of the Accounting Standards Committee, which has codified best practice has given accountants working in companies a framework in which to draw up accounts, which is available for auditors to check, while the more recent appointment of a similar committee, which like ASC comprised members from each of the six United Kingdom

bodies, will provide similar ground rules.

The publication of the Ayde guidelines on inflation accounting have also moved the most contentious topic of debate while improving information to users of accounts.

Many problems remain. The joint professional bodies of the Auditing Practices Committee and ASC are a cumbersome way of controlling a profession that finds it impossible to integrate. Although ground rules for preparing financial statements, auditing accounts and disciplining miscreants are largely available they will need to change as financial conditions change, and soon the profession will have to make up its mind whether an audit of small companies is in any way significant, or whether, as with the intended development of disclosure requirements, there should be a scaled system for the different sizes of companies.

All these things are likely to get a far greater public hearing than they would have done 10 years ago, but after several years of living under a spotlight because of

the inflation accounting debate, the profession is getting more used to the public gaze and less embarrassed over washing its dirty linen in public.

It is as though accountants suddenly woke up and saw that there was more to their job than adding up columns of figures and putting a tick at the end. The increased use of computers has revolutionized the information readily available, while problems of interpretation have multiplied.

They will continue to do so. The EEC is debating and issuing directives on the way member states should present accounts, the size of their companies and the disclosures required.

The growth of multinational companies continues to increase the problems created by currency changes, local tax laws, and the treatment of "slush funds" (bribes). Britain has been in the vanguard of developing accounting techniques. This supremacy has been questioned in the past 10 years, and in the future will come up increasingly against international constraints.

Tradition at sixes and sevens

by Alan Hamilton

Dick Whittington does not really deserve all the kudos. He was by no means the first Lord Mayor of London, and it is doubtful whether he ever had a cat, although he did hold the post of London's First Citizen three times.

The first recorded mayor was Henry Fitz Aylwyn in 1192, and he probably did not have a cat either.

The City's governing body is so old that it has no charter of incorporation, and exists only by right of custom and practice since at least the time of Alfred the Great, who appointed his son-in-law its alderman in 885. In 1100 years of history the City has collected a vast store of tradition and ancient practice, much of which continues to be preserved and renewed at the appropriate time each year.

One of the oldest is the Trial of the Pyx. Every year since 1248 the Goldsmiths' Company has been on the lookout for counterfeit coin of the realm, in a ceremony held in March. One coin out of every 5,000 produced by the Royal Mint (now moved from the City to South Wales) is put in a sealed packet, and the packets into a series of boxes called The Pyx. Members of the Company check the denomination of the coins, weigh them in bulk, and announce their findings to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In 1381 the wife of Sir Robert Knollys built a bridge from her house in Seething Lane to another property across the road, without obtaining planning consent. As a penalty the Lord Mayor imposed a quarantine of a single red rose to be presented every Mid-

summer Day. Nowadays the rose is presented by members of the Ward of the Tower and parishioners of All Hallows Barking by the Tower, who also present them for London. The rent for The Moors in Shropshire used to be two knives, one sharp enough to cut a hard stick with one blow, the other so weak that it would bend in new chains. The knives have now been replaced by a billhook and hatchet.

At the same time the City pays rent on The Forge in St Clement Danes with six horseshoes and six custom arising from jousting tournaments once held near by.

Sir John Cass, the City Sheriff who founded the school which bears his name, died of a heart attack in 1718 while drawing up his will in favour of the foundation. Each February the pupils attend a memorial service in St Botolph's, Aldgate, wearing red feather quills in their hats and lapels in memory of his bloodstained pet.

Two Easter traditions concern hot cross buns. Every Good Friday at the Church of St Bartholomew the Great, a presentation of buns and coins is made to poor City widows under the bequest of the Buterworth Charities. The gifts being laid out on tombstones by the west door. At the same time another bun is added to the collection above the bar in The Widow's Son pub, to commemorate the sailor son who failed to return home two hundred Easters ago. A happier tradition is remembered each April, in accordance with the bequest in 1880 of Signor Pasquale Favale, an Italian merchant, the City Corporation dis-

misses marriage dowries to three "poor, honest young women" between 16 and 25, who were born in the City or have lived there for seven years. The benefactor stated in his will that he had been "induced to make the bequest by the fact that his wife was a native of London, and he had passed many happy years of his life in that City."

Once a fortnight the children of Bow pass under a small wooden arch in Fern Street inscribed: "Enter all ye children small; None can come who are too tall." Those who can pass under are presented with toys.

A building in Philippot Lane has what appears to be a carving of a mouse and a piece of bread on the facade. Tradition affirms that while the builders had stopped for lunch, a mouse ran off with one workman's spud; whistles he threw a handful of wet cement at it and imprisoned it and his lunch for ever on the wall.

Silhouetted against the sky above Cornhill is a pair of crouching devils that appear poised to leap on to the church of St Peter below. The architect, Runtz, lost a dispute with the church authorities and erected the devils to show his disapproval.

There are countless more oddities and traditions, many of them listed in Kent's classic *Encyclopaedia of London*, recently revised by the present City Librarian, Godfrey Thompson, and others in Andrew Lawson's *Uncovered London*, published this year.

One more recent tradition, as prevalent in London as elsewhere, is the writing of graffiti on walls. What will future historians make of the inscription seen recently: "Keep Britain tidy—eat a pigeon?"

One more recent tradition, as prevalent in London as elsewhere, is the writing of graffiti on walls. What will future historians make of the inscription seen recently: "Keep Britain tidy—eat a pigeon?"

One more recent tradition, as prevalent in London as elsewhere, is the writing of graffiti on walls. What will future historians make of the inscription seen recently: "Keep Britain tidy—eat a pigeon?"

One more recent tradition, as prevalent in London as elsewhere, is the writing of graffiti on walls. What will future historians make of the inscription seen recently: "Keep Britain tidy—eat a pigeon?"

One more recent tradition, as prevalent in London as elsewhere, is the writing of graffiti on walls. What will future historians make of the inscription seen recently: "Keep Britain tidy—eat a pigeon?"

TWO OF THE CITY'S OLDEST INSTITUTIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON MICROFILM

Nowhere can the changing face of the City be seen more vividly than through the pages of its newspapers, and the City is fortunate in having two of this country's oldest established daily newspapers, LLOYD'S LIST and the FINANCIAL TIMES serving its needs. Many companies find newspapers a valuable reference source, but are beset by storage problems. Newspaper Archive Development (a division of Times Newspapers Limited) have come up with a solution, by supplying these newspapers on microfilm.

LLOYD'S LIST

Established in 1734, Lloyd's List can boast of being London's oldest surviving daily newspaper, and has long been regarded as an authoritative source in the realm of commerce and sea transport. Now sold in more than 100 countries, it has extended its coverage to the entire transport industry, catering in particular for the needs of those working in shipping, insurance, banking and finance, air freight and the energy fields.

FINANCIAL TIMES

For over 90 years one of the world's leading business orientated newspapers, and now as much a financial institution as the stock exchange itself. The Financial Times continues to achieve its original aim of 1838—"To omit nothing which could be of interest to the business man".

Apart from the current issues we have also filmed the back years to 1888, providing a unique record of nearly a century of City history.

For further details and prices of these, and other titles on microfilm, please write to, or telephone, DAVID ROBSON, Newspaper Archive Developments Limited, 16, Westcote Road, Reading RG3 2DF Tel: (0734) 583247

More traded than stocks and shares

by Richard Warden

Terms were agreed last month in the final negotiation of new 12-year leases for the 180 tenants of Smithfield Market. For the 109 years since the London Central Meat, Poultry and Provisions Markets were established there, Smithfield has run on weekly tenancies. Two of the new 12-year tenants had ancestors who opened there in the first week.

There is another link with the old system. Tenancies were always subject to a particular City Corporation condition: a breach of covenant by any tenant constituted an automatic breach of tenancy. It means that if a market dealer does not pay his suppliers, then he forfeits his pitch. The same applies under the new tenancies.

All four of the City's produce markets—Billingsgate, Leadenhall, Smithfield and Spitalfields—combine traditions like this with varying degrees of modern distributive practice. Smithfield's meat market is the biggest of them, and the one most likely to survive further changes in the wholesaling and retailing of food. Its volume of business rivals that of some of the financial markets of the City. And the physical trading done inside the market, about £250m a year, does not convey the whole picture. As with the commodity or metals markets, volume done inside the exchanges may be outweighed by that done in the business quarter which surrounds them.

The meat dealers around Smithfield, using the prices struck there to set going rate for produce which is miles, even continents away, probably buy and sell another £500m of meat a year. Even so, the trading done within the market makes it probably the biggest dead meat, poultry and provisions market in the world.

Why Smithfield has flourished, and Billingsgate's fish market declined, is partly to do with trade practice, partly facilities. Most types

of meat have not suffered the same recent price inflation as fish. But the retail sales. Nor has there been an equivalent to the growth in ports supplying fish direct to the restaurants, or to the makers of fish fingers.

But Billingsgate has also suffered more physically. It lies between the Thames and what is now the main east-west road artery of the City. Competition of this dual carriageway is what will finally push Billingsgate's market out of the City, not just the decline in trade (less than a third of the tonnage now compared with the peak years of the 1950s, although the figures distort the fall, since more fish now arrives already processed and therefore lighter).

So, the site having been used for a general market for a thousand years, and as a fish market since the fifteenth century, Billingsgate will probably lose its traders in the next few years, perhaps to a site further east. Councillor Alfred Shindler, chairman of the Central Markets Committee which controls Smithfield, happens also to represent the Billingsgate Ward. He maintains the fish market is still, in trading terms, viable, but that it could soon be "dead on this site".

Its decampment would highlight the phenomenon of how these sprawling produce markets ever came to be set up over acres of an overcrowded financial centre, containing valuable office block land. It is just a matter of history, the City having early protected its preeminence by getting statute rights to run the main trading markets of the day, and to suppress any markets within seven miles of these.

In practice the Earl of Bedford was granted Covent Garden, and the Crown allowed John Belch to start Spitalfields Market in Stepney. The City borders in 1682 (the City did not buy the market of freehold until 1901). But with few exceptions the City's powers have survived, and the Corporation is effectively the wholesale market authority for Greater London.

Each of its four markets is controlled by a committee of the Common Council and administered by a superintendent, and it has been

the Corporation's decision to move markets around—like pushing the live cattle market out from Smithfield to Islington in 1855, and then moving the Newgate Street and Farringdon markets into Smithfield—and also to determine expenditure on rebuilding.

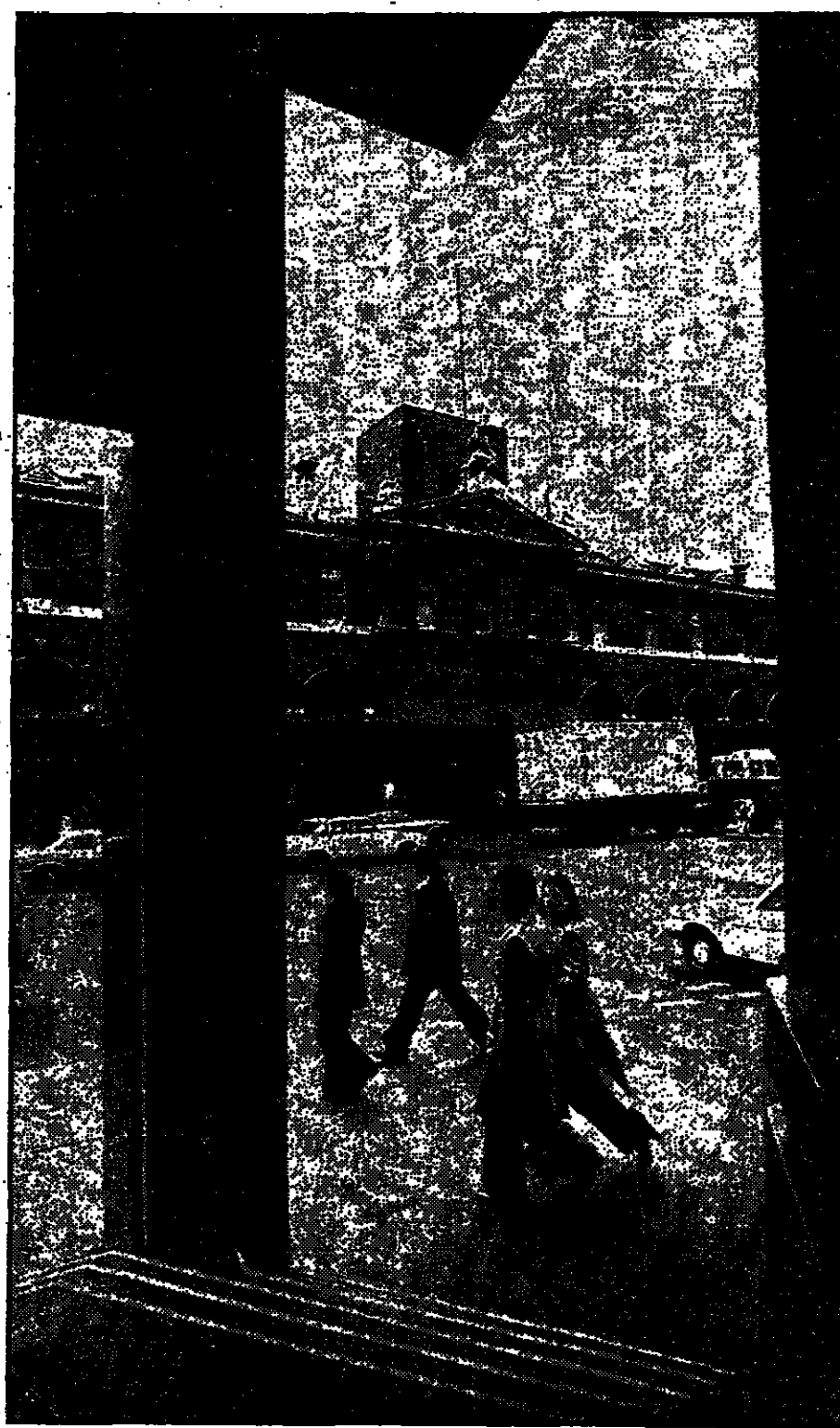
It administers them as facilities rather than profit-makers, returns being limited to tens of thousands of pounds on gross rents of about £1m.

What most of the working or resident population of the City bother about, especially now that the worst road congestion problems of the wholesale markets have been solved, is the shortage of shops in the area. This is where Leadenhall, the second biggest retail centre in the City after Chancery, plays an important role.

It was bought by the Corporation in 1411 and a large market house constructed there in 1445. The last rebuilding was in 1881, and while some of the atmosphere of the wholesale poultry, game and egg market remains, Leadenhall is now a collection of shops rather than a market in the strict sense. Mercifully, most of the grandiose schemes for modernizing it have now been forgotten, and the present debate concerns more vehicle-pedestrian separation.

But keeping areas like Leadenhall as protected, historic areas does not solve the basic difficulty of improving shopping facilities in the City. These have been in steady decline since the Second World War. Between 1961 and 1973 the area lost a quarter of its retail floor-space and half of what is left is taken up by pubs, cafés and restaurants.

In the past few years the decline has been slowed, with the Corporation restoring changes of use from retail to what are called quasi-retail uses, like building society or betting offices. The fact remains, however, that the wholesale retailers find it hard to meet trading targets in the City, with its limited peak shopping period at lunchtime, while the smaller shopkeepers are frightened by high rents and rates. Retail labour is difficult to find, because of the low wages relative to clerical jobs and the time and costs involved in commuting.



Billingsgate: after a thousand years traders may have only a few years left.

Gastronomic hazards among the office blocks

by John Groser

A close friend recently made the move from financial journalism to the City. Used to Fleet Street expense accounts, he entertained lavishly with some style at his new merchant bank.

Came the day when he took to luncheon a former senior Tory minister at a not altogether unpleasant wine bar in the City. The round, Conservative one declared that he was on a diet and proceeded merely to drink—Mumm Green Label in vast quantities.

Such was the quantity that my friend asked for a receipt at paying time for the bill, which came to £32. In due course, the financial director of the aforementioned merchant bank sent for the recruit and demanded to know how on earth he and one guest could possibly drink £32-worth of champagne in the luncheon hour.

The reply, with a hint of raised eyebrow, was laconic. "Why, slightly chilled and accompanied by a small

plate of caviar on toast." My friend is now thought of as a "high flyer" in that bank.

I only mention this disgusting episode because it was to my gourmand friend that I went when I had been instructed to write this piece about winning and dining in the City. He sighed a mighty sigh and plucked another gull's egg (out of season, but specially flown in from south-equatorial parts) from the basket on his bedside table (he was at this point in hospital for the duration of his wife's confinement before the birth of their first child).

The City, he protested, was a gastronomic desert. There was scarcely a watering hole he would recommend to the readers of this great organ.

At this point a comely nurse informed him that he had just become the proud father of twins. He fainted and left me to compose, from no great experience, a guide to this issue of what goes on, food and drink-wise, in the City.

My worst experience—an occasion when gastronomy reached its lowest point—

was in a small pub. The dry wine I ordered turned out to be chateau-bottled, Ugandan riesling (with the special Amin sweetener) and accompanied the house's special paté sandwich. I ate one inch lump of liver sausage between two one inch slices of lightly oiled bread.

People tell me that City lunches are fattening, boring, indigestible, expensive and the only time to get real business done. And so they may be. When I worked in America, people used to say that the golf course was the only place to get business done, which may also have been true, though I never found it so. I spent so much time in bunkers and forgetting to turn off the motor of my cavity car (so they say) that I ran off by myself that "business" for me was of a purely theatrical character.

So, for that matter, is eating in the City. Summoned to the boardroom of an illustrious clearing bank, I found myself (with emotions approaching awe) seated between the chairman and managing director of this high street leviathan.

"Would the Health Administration fail with its incomes policy?" the chairman inquired. I toyed with my dry smoked salmon and wondered why these captains of commerce were discussing such matters of importance in front of a mere political reporter. There is only a certain time you can toy with salmon, and when I looked up seven pairs of half-rimmed eyes were fixed on me.

Those were the days of austerity and boardroom luncheons at... ah, I nearly told you... were confined to four courses and two wines. Obviously, we were not going to get the second course until I made some reply. So I said "it depended" and complimented the chairman on his white Burgundy.

All the wines (including an excellent claret) had been laid down by his father (so you have guessed which bank) and were a matter of little consequence to the chairman. Nor, for that matter, was the food, which

seemed curiously "nursery" in so opulent a setting. The aged retainers were wonderful and ensured that if any dish was hot when it arrived from the kitchens, it was definitely cold when it reached the table.

The servers of food and wine are an observer's delight. The relatively new fashion of giving guests luncheon in your office (rather than taking them to an expensive eatery) has provided occupation for many unseated Sloane Rangers. Pert bottoms and sheer stockings have covered (if the expression may be excused) a multitude of gastronomic sins.

My favourite "in-house" dining room was at the old Spectator offices in Gower Street (which, though not strictly in the City, possessed through the proprietorship of Harry Crichton a definite City quality) where dolly, cordon-bleu cookes served goodies to dazzling guests like Margaret Thatcher, Edward Heath and Enoch Powell (though not

of course, on the same day). Then there are the facilities offered by the City Guilds, various (more or less) expensive clubs, a confusing selection of restaurants, wine bars and pubs. If the City, collectively, has hardened arteries, I am hardly surprised.

The men and women who control our destinies from the Square Mile have hardly the scope for a balanced diet and controlled drinking. Expense accounts are more than a status symbol and a handful of credit cards has become a substitute for cash.

What is needed in the City is a superb (French) restaurant offering a limited menu at proper cost with wines to match. Service should be friendly, but not familiar. It should be possible to eat three courses, drink a bottle of wine and finish your coffee within an hour. No table should be so close to another that conversation can be easily overheard. There is the idea and I even know of the site. Has any reader got the money?

Livery companies contribute to high standards

by Patrick O'Leary

A trapeze of tourists was making its awed way through the hall of one of the City's medieval livery companies. The host pointed out a particularly fine example of modern craftsmanship and remarked: "You can see we are not just a dining club."

Companies often feel defensive because much of their time is now spent organising schools, charities and ceremonial dinners, and polishing the antique silver. But these activities are worthy if not worshipful and nobody need apologise for contributing to high standards in such neglected social arts and social services.

After all, nobody would be better off if the Bowers had clung grimly to bow-making, although they still encourage archery. This company was always quick to adapt, for in 1571 members positioned for night work to be abolished. Funmakers have taken to recruiting manufacturers of conical fans.

Some bodies have stuck closely to their tasks. The Gunmakers, who did so much to put Bowman out of business, have been proof testing small arms for 240 years. The Fishmongers send out inspectors, called fishmasters, from their hall by London Bridge to check the freshness of catches on sale at Billingsgate.

In the general eye, Vintners go with swan-upping, from the annual taking up and marking of the Thames. But among their duties is helping to enforce EEC wine laws in Britain.

Hallmarks are still applied at Goldsmiths' Hall. It is better known to the public than the headquarters of other foundations because of the frequent exhibitions held there, including this year's display of royal souvenirs.

Early in November the Company of Builders' Merchants received their letters patent from the retiring Lord Mayor, Sir Robin Gillies. This formal grant of livery made them the eighty-eighth in order of precedence, and they were the

fourth to obtain it in 1977, after more than a decade without new entrants.

Perhaps this sudden revival of interest owes something to a feeling that both the City and professional bodies are under left-wing fire, and should close ranks. Certainly the corporation has decided to strengthen its links with institutions whose members are active in the City, but whose headquarters may be in other parts of London.

One of the new livery companies, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, founded by charter in 1868, said that although they had 50,000 members world wide, and premises in the heart of Westminster, they had strong connections with the City. "It is a question of achieving recognition there, of professional and personal status," a spokesman said.

Other newcomers this year have been the Chartered Secretaries and the Chartered Accountants. Not all their members will become liverymen, and few of those who do will have occasion to

wear the livery or uniform after their initiation.

A grant of livery is distinct from that of a charter, which comes from the monarch, and it is made only if the City's Court of Aldermen is satisfied the company concerned is an established body devoted to some trade or interest not already represented. The aldermen set a quota for the number of freemen to which each company is entitled, the total limit for new ones being 300.

One further complication is that freemen do not necessarily become liverymen straight away. Many have to wait years for this step.

Some companies restrict members to people directly involved in the trade or profession, but the majority also admit the children of members—the Queen is free-woman of the Drapers because her father was a Draper. The freedom can also be presented to distinguished guests, and put bluntly, it can be bought, although redemption as it is called is only open to those elected.

Livery companies and the

guilds from which they sprang had a hand in establishing institutions which would be regarded as welfare state services today. They looked after members who fell sick, and the families of those who died. They encouraged apprenticeship, and regulated relations between master and men.

Merchants selling shoddy goods or giving short weight were punished, guilds operating the closed shop with a ruthlessness that would shock a modern picket. Their method of electing officers has been seen as the basis of democracy itself.

Delving into company history is a little like unravelling the plot of Beowulf. Distinctive in a different way is the founding fathers must have been acquainted. But there are charters 600 years old and more, while many bodies were established well before receiving charters.

Each company has a number headed by the Mercers at No. 1, with 11 others making up the Great Twelve. But this order of precedence, followed on ceremonial occasions, was established in

1515, and does not necessarily indicate age.

Skinner and Merchant Taylors alternate annually between sixth and seventh because both refused to say "after you". A more detached attitude is taken by the Parish Clerks, who, although among the oldest chartered bodies, have never applied for a grant of livery.

Several companies have magnificent halls, but most are modern, the original premises having disappeared through fire, bombing and demolition. One surviving hall is the seventeenth-century hall of the Society of Apothecaries in a secluded courtyard at Blackfriars. Distinctive in a different way is the shop on the Thames which houses the Honourable Company of Master Mariners.

Several City churches owe much to the companies long associated with them. This heavy-commerce link was renewed unexpectedly when the City Livery Club opened in 1914. The luncheon club uses part of St John College, a theological foundation with a clerical library.

We think pubs should look their age.



THE QUEENS HEAD. BUILT 1670, MODERNISED 1967.

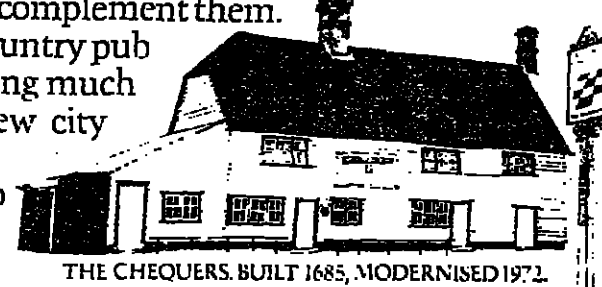
Some breweries show little respect for architecture, old or new.

They plaster their pubs with signs. Paint them up in gaudy colours.

And decorate them to clash with their surroundings rather than complement them.

So an old country pub can end up looking much the same as a new city centre pub.

They do it to create a 'modern' corporate image.



THE CHEQUERS. BUILT 1685, MODERNISED 1972.

We don't do it at all. When we modernise a pub we like to leave it looking as good as the day it was built.

We take into account its size, position and above all its age and character.

We emphasise its architectural features and make the most of its eccentricities.

And when we build a pub from scratch, it fits in with its surroundings.

You won't find 'Whitbread' signs all over our pubs. The most we allow is two. And even then we limit their size.

So, old or new, good or bad, you can see the architecture.

That's why out of all Whitbread pubs across the country no two look alike.



THE BOWERS ARMS. BUILT 1965.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 14. Dealings End, Nov 25. § Contango Day, Nov 28. Settlement Day, Dec 6
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

John Foord
CHARTERED
SURVEYORS

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

John Foord
PLANT AND
MACHINERY
VALUERS

OECD states scrap target and face another year of mounting unemployment

From David Blake
Paris, Nov 22

The industrial nations of the West today accepted that most of them will have to face another year of rising unemployment in 1978. Hopes expressed by ministers in June that the economies of countries forming the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development could grow by 5 per cent next year have now been abandoned.

Instead, even the optimists now conclude that, if each country succeeds in meeting its own growth target, the total increase in output during 1978 will be only 4.5 per cent.

Many countries accept that on present forecasts they will not grow by as much as they would like next year, and two of the strongest nations, Germany and Japan, have said that they see virtually no scope for further action if they find that they are underperforming their targets. The decision to abandon the 5 per cent growth target for 1978 was taken by senior officials at a meeting of the Economic Policy Committee of the 24-nation OECD.

Officials were presented with two sets of figures during their two-day meeting which ended last night. One set predicted that national growth rates would be 4.5 per cent for 1978, and 5 per cent for 1979. The other, generally much lower, was made up of forecasts drawn up by senior economists at the

OECD on what they believed to be the likely outcome during 1978 if present policies were continued.

Only the United States put forward a reasonably high growth target with great conviction. Mr Charles Schultz, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, said that America was determined to grow by around 5 per cent during 1978.

He said that worries about the balance of payments would not be allowed to stand in the way of this growth target, and that any extra stimulatory action was needed it would be taken.

Mr Schultz called on other countries to expand their economies more rapidly pointing out that growth outside the United States would be below 4 per cent next year even if all the targets were met; most predictions would set the growth rate at around 3 per cent.

This compares with a growth rate of around 5 per cent needed to bring down the unemployment rate in Europe.

Strong American pressure for greater stimulus to demand was backed by Sir Douglas West, permanent secretary to the Treasury. He said that the risks of the world were now much greater on the side of recession than inflation, a view shared by many other members of the OECD secretariat.

On the other side, surplus countries such as Germany,

Japan and Switzerland reject the idea that they should cut taxes or boost public spending to stimulate demand.

The Germans say they hope to achieve growth of around 4 to 4.5 per cent next year compared with the 3 per cent forecast by the OECD secretariat for Germany. They add that even if the OECD forecast turns out to be right, they do not intend to be forced into what they consider premature action to cut taxes.

They attack both the theory that tax cuts stimulate growth and the suggestion that Germany has a special responsibility, along with Japan, to help lead the world out of recession.

This idea, commonly known as the "locomotive theory", has now been replaced in the thinking of the OECD secretariat by proposals calling for many more countries to stimulate their economies.

Although Germany, Japan and the United States are expected to play an important role, the OECD would like to see middle-ranking countries playing a more expansionary part.

The meeting of the past two days was originally intended to chart the way forward for joint action by industrial nations to cope with their problems. It seems, instead, to have led to a widening of differences between those wanting more expansion and those worried about inflation.

On the other side, surplus countries such as Germany,

Tyne and Clyde given bulk of ships order

Tyneside and Clydeside are earmarked for the largest shares of the £115m shipbuilding order from Poland.

Mr Michael Casey, chief executive of British Shipbuilders, announced in Glasgow last night that he was proposing to allocate all seven of the 16,500-ton bulk carriers to the Swan Hunter yard on Tyneside, and 10 of the 15, multipurpose bulk carriers (each of 4,500 tonnes) to Govan Shipbuilders on the Clyde.

The value of the Swan Hunter order is about £50m, and the Clyde share is worth between £35m and £40m.

Mr Casey's announcement came after meetings with shipbuilders on Tyneside and Clydeside during which he called for assurances of full cooperation. He asked for an answer by Friday of this week on full cooperation in building and delivering the ships on a tight schedule.

At his press conference in Glasgow, Mr Casey said that British Shipbuilders was aiming to deliver 24 ships in one year—one every two weeks—starting in the last quarter of 1978.

Meetings with the shipbuilders, both in the North-East of England and Scotland, had been "extremely constructive", Mr Casey said.

"The matter is now being considered by the shipbuilders who will be meeting the work force, and they will be giving me their response very quickly."

Of the seven ships to drive the 16,500-ton ships, five would be built at the Kincaid works on the Clyde and two in Poland. Out of 15 engines for the 4,500-ton ships, eight would be built in Poland and seven by George Clark in the North-East of England.

World orders down: Orders held by the world's shipbuilding industry have sunk to their lowest level since mid-1968, according to the quarterly survey of Lloyd's Register of Shipping. Nearly 80 per cent of the present order book is due to be completed by the end of next year.

Economists surprised by decline in jobless figures

Continued from page 1

To interpret the figures as evidence of a definite improvement. It is felt that no clear trend has emerged yet.

It is nevertheless something of a surprise that unemployment has stopped rising this autumn. Most forecasts were for a continued rise throughout this year and many economists outside the Government expected a rise through 1978 as well.

However, the Treasury have recently argued that the potential growth of the economy, measured by output per month, has slowed permanently so that the forecast growth rate of 3.1 per cent over the next year will bring down the numbers of jobless.

Lack of change in the dole queue while industrial output remains practically stagnant implies a further deterioration in productivity which will bring down the numbers of jobless.

However, the latest figures for output in the whole economy, gross domestic product, show that there was an upturn in activity in the third quarter, which could go to explain yesterday's unemployment figures.

It is also argued that employers are increasingly reluctant to lay off workers as the cost of hiring and firing have increased.

But this ignores the fact that many people join and leave the unemployment register each month. The total on the register is the result of flows during the month.

There was an increase in those leaving the register in the three months ending October compared with the previous three months, while the average number joining remained the same.

The Government's special measures to raise employment are estimated to be helping about 300,000 people. The effect on the register is slightly less at 250,000.

Temporary employment subsidy covers the largest number of people at 189,400.

The gap between high and low unemployment rates is now widening in the North, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the worse of regions, dole queues lengthened in November, while in the better off regions the numbers out of work fell.

Sir Hugh Fraser in share switch

A share vote switch by Sir Hugh Fraser in House of Fraser, the Harrods stores group, was disclosed yesterday.

Sir Hugh, who faces charges under the Companies Act in relation to Scottish and Universal Investment Trust, has assigned all votes in respect of his holding of 800,000 shares in

NCB Pension Fund and Midland Bank in joint financing ventures

By Desmond Quigley

National Coal Board Pension Fund and the Midland Bank are proposing to put up equity and loan finance for companies with a capitalization of between £5m and £20m.

Both groups—the Midland through its equity finance subsidiary Midland Montagu Industrial Finance—are proposing to take stakes of between 10 per cent and 49 per cent in individual companies with each investment ranging between £500,000 and £2m.

No upper limit has been put on the amount to be invested, although £20m is perhaps the first benchmark. The two groups will not necessarily be investing in the same portfolio and indeed the essence appears to be that the NCB

fund will put up the bulk of the money while the Midland will provide management services.

Major beneficiaries are likely to be the smaller public companies, although there is scope also for private companies.

The NCB has set up a special department to administer the scheme. A spokesman said yesterday: "We regard it as a good market for investment which to a certain extent has been overlooked."

"We are looking for the soundly based, well-established and well-managed company which is looking for capital. He added that the fund essentially would be providing venture rather than risk capital."

Both groups have been partly

influenced by the Wilson Committee which has received much evidence suggesting that small companies face greater problems over fund-raising, although discussions between the Midland and the NCB fund were underway before the Wilson committee was appointed.

It is not either a particularly new step for either group, since the NCB in the past has invested in small companies while earlier this year the Midland, in conjunction with the British Gas Central pension funds and Prudential Assurance, set up Moracrest to channel funds into smaller companies.

Mr D. Kitching, general manager of the Midland Bank, said yesterday that the new development was complementary to Moracrest.

Russia and Italy sign \$650m credit

Moscow, Nov 22.—Italian and Soviet trade officials today signed a new \$650m (about £360m) credit agreement.

Taking part in the signing ceremony were Signor Rinaldo Ossola, Italy's Minister of Foreign Trade, and Mr Nikolai Panchichev, Soviet Foreign Trade Minister.

The credit is to be in three annual tranches, 1977 to 1979. The first, for \$250m, has already been assigned.

Italian banks handling the credit are Istituto Mobiliare Italiano (IMI) and Mediobanca. Both are state-owned.

No details of the credit have been disclosed, but IMI and Mediobanca expressed confidence that they could place the Soviet money in the European market fairly easily.

The credit follows one of \$900m opened in early 1976, which has been exhausted.—AP-Dow Jones.

Trafalgar confirms bid for Fairey

By Richard Allen

Trafalgar House confirmed last night that it is making an offer for the non-aviation business of the Fairey Group, which is in receivership.

Trafalgar said that it had made a cash bid of between £15m and £20m for the principal engineering subsidiaries including Fairey Engineering based at Stockport and other Fairey companies based at Heston, Middlesex, as well as certain freehold properties.

In a statement issued last night, Trafalgar, whose chairman is Sir Nigel Bruckers, declared that these operations were in the main compatible with and complementary to Trafalgar's own construction and engineering interests, mainly the Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Company based in Darlington and Teesside.

Sir Charles Hardie, the receiver of the Fairey Group, said last night that he would

be considering the Trafalgar proposals "in the light of other proposals under discussion". He would then be communicating with Trafalgar. Sir Charles declined to comment on the other proposals.

It is known to be considering a number of approaches and it is as yet far from clear whether he is prepared to sell the group on a piecemeal basis.

Earlier this month the receiver turned down an undisclosed offer from Short Bros & Harland, the state-owned Belfast aircraft manufacturer, for Fairey's British/Norman aircraft interests in the United Kingdom and Belgium.

The National Enterprise Board is believed to be another contender for the engineering interests.

In its statement Trafalgar said that it intended to continue and expand the Fairey operations "so far as is practicable and subject to profitability".

Bonn forecast of 3.5 pc GNP rise

From Peter Norman
Bonn, Nov 22

West Germany's council of economic advisers today forecast that the country's gross national product was likely to rise by only 3.5 per cent in real terms next year after a 2.5 per cent gain this year.

But in their latest report on

the economy the five academics who make up the council argued that the Bonn government had done all it could to promote economic growth.

Although the annual rate of growth is likely to accelerate to 4 per cent in the second half of next year, the council expressed doubts as to whether

the economy would drop significantly below a million if wages rose as expected by 5.5 per cent.

The council's prescription for an improvement was "for a clear change of course" in the level of wage settlements.

Union's deaf ear, page 31

Rising yen brings fears of recession

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Nov 22

Confronted on one side by international thrusts against Japan's trading policy, Mr Takeo Fukuda, the Japanese Prime Minister, was besieged at home today by business leaders warned the government that the rapid appreciation of the yen would plunge the country's export industry into recession.

The warning was issued when leaders of four industrial associations, the ruling party's major source of financial support, met senior leaders of the Liberal Democratic Party to discuss the next Budget.

Mr Toshiro Doko, president of Keidanren (the Federation of Economic Organizations), said the yen had been allowed to float up by more than 20 per cent this year to a record post-war level of 241.30 to the dollar today to placate Japan's trading partners.

This new rate, coupled with the fact that the government has done nothing to stimulate the economy since last year, was likely to lead to bankruptcies and unemployment unless drastic measures were adopted, Mr Doko is reported to have said.

Mr Fukuda's promises delivered to the conference of industrial leaders in May this year, that Japan would stimulate its economy and domestic demand to encourage imports, have so far not materialized.

Mr Fukuda now faces an acute dilemma. The Japanese Government can, of course, decide to devalue the yen to restore the export industry's competitive edge.

But many economists believe that the step would antagonize Japan's major trading partners.

Further slide of dollar despite bank support

By Caroline Atkinson

The dollar plunged to new lows against the Japanese yen, the Swiss franc, and the German mark yesterday.

Despite considerable central bank support for the American currency, the dollar closed at 240.6 yen, 2.232 Deutsche marks and 2.406 Swiss francs in London, its effective depreciation since Smithsonian, measured against a basket of currencies, widened to 2.52 per cent from 2.4 per cent.

Japanese markets will be closed for a holiday today, and dealers were nervous in case the dollar fell further against the yen while the Bank of Japan is not there to support it.

American markets will be closed on Thursday for Thanksgiving, and few will want to be long on dollars during the close. The Federal Reserve Bank spent DM 30m supporting the dollar at the fixing, and more during trading.

Gold lost further ground despite the weaker dollar. Investors have become very worried by the weakness of the gold price while the dollar has fallen. It closed down 50 cents in London at \$156.875.

Sterling lost ground yesterday amid the general nervousness about pay, although it recovered towards the end of the day against the weaker dollar. It closed 5 points higher at 1.818 against the dollar but dropped 0.4 on the effective rate index to close at 63.3.

John Whitmore writes: Short-term interest rates continued to move higher yesterday on grow-

ing fears that the authorities may have to act before too long to curb the growth in the money supply.

Although three month treasury bills were trading at a level which, if repeated at Friday's weekly tender, could lead to a rise in the Bank of England minimum lending rate—currently 5 per cent—the general impression in the market was that the authorities were not keen to see an increase in MLR at this stage.

The rise in interest rates for six to 12 month money has been going on for some weeks now, but the whole of short-term yield has started to steepen noticeably since the publication last week of the October money supply figures.

The coupon on this week's issue of local authority yearling bonds reflected the recent change, rising from 6.5 per cent last week to 7.5 per cent.

The interest rate on the first ever batch of floating rate local authority bonds issued yesterday carried coupons set at 10 per cent over six months LIBOR for three year bonds and 1 per cent over LIBOR for five year bonds.

David Mott writes: Ordinary shares suffered a seventh consecutive day of losses on the London stock market yesterday. With industrial worries and concern over the growth of the money supply investors were not inclined to reverse their recent caution and the FT ordinary share index ended another 3.5 for a close of 471.8.

Glit-gled stocks were jolted by the high interest rate talk, though they managed to halve early losses of up to £3 by the end of the session.

Financial Editor, page 31

How the markets moved

The Times index: 197.89 - 1.99
The FT index: 471.8 - 3.5

Rises

Bilton Percy	4p to 135p
Swatow	4p to 169p
East India	12p to 148p
Eastern Prov	3p to 8p
Electrocomp	3p to 318p
Jardine M'ison	3p to 217p
Lida Yid Ind	3p to 130p
Nielair	1p to 34p

Falls

Allied	2p to 87p
Asst Port Cement	5p to 254p
Edin Ind Hldgs	2p to 14p
Fisons	10p to 35p
Furness Withy	12p to 325p
Hawker Sid	2p to 178p
Millbury	3p to 60p
New Tharg Inc	2p to 19p
Peak Inv	2p to 7p
Park Farms	15p to 383p

Equities fell back. Gold-edged securities lost ground. Bull premium: 100.25 per cent. Effective rate: 32.40 per cent. Sterling gained 5 p to \$1.8180. The effective exchange rate index was at 63.3.

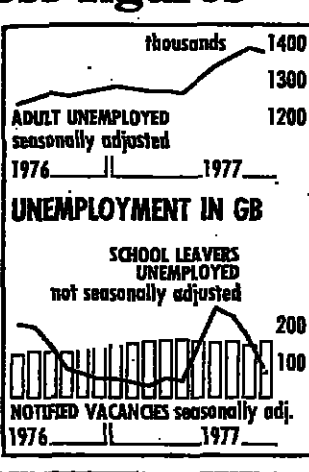
On other pages

Business appointments	30 Wall Street	33 Annual Statement:
Appointments vacant	13 Bank Base Rates Table	33 British Assets Trust

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells
Australia \$	1.66	1.61
Austria Sch	28.25	28.25
Belgium Fr	66.00	66.00
Canada \$	2.05	2.00
Denmark Kr	11.42	11.02
Finland Mark	7.80	7.55
France Fr	8.48	8.42
Germany Dm	4.34	4.02
Greece Dr	78.50	74.00
Hong Kong \$	16.00	15.50
Italy L	1620.00	1565.00
Japan Yen	465.00	440.00
Netherlands Gld	4.56	4.34
Norway Kr	10.16	9.80
Portugal Esc	78.20	74.00
Spain Pes	165.00	150.00
Sweden Kr	8.97	8.62
Switzerland Fr	4.17	3.95
US \$	1.81	1.81
Yugoslav Dnr	36.25	35.50

Notes for small denomination bank notes only. As supplied, payable by bank only. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques, and other foreign currency.



UNEMPLOYMENT
The following are the monthly figures for Great Britain released by the Department of Employment:

	Total unemployed	Seasonally adjusted	Adults unemployed	Seasonally adjusted	School leavers unemployed	Seasonally adjusted
1976						
Nov	1,316	1,273	5.5	5.5	+	+
Dec	1,385	1,285	5.5	5.5	+	+
1977						
Jan	1,390	1,285	5.5	5.5	+	+
Feb	1,385	1,278	5.5	5.5	149	149
March	1,328	1,263	5.5	5.5	158	158
April	1,316	1,263	5.5	5.5	157	157
May	1,286	1,262	5.5	5.5	180	180
June	1,290	1,298	5.5	5.5	156	156
July	1,553	1,345	5.8	5.8	151	151
Aug	1,567	1,357	5.9	5.9	152	152
Sept	1,542	1,389	6.0	6.0	143	143
Oct	1,467	1,377	6.0	6.0	151	151
Nov	1,438	1,377	6.0	6.0	154	154

Figures not available.

Excluding school leavers.

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

	Number	Change of all month places	%
East	332,100	-3,400	-1.0
East Anglia	36,400	-600	-1.6
East of England	117,000	-1,500	-1.3
West Midlands	184,500	-2,000	-1.1
East Midlands	77,800	-1,000	-1.3
Yorkshire	117,000	-1,500	-1.3
West	204,200	-2,000	-1.0
North	117,700	-3,400	-2.9
Wales	85,000	-1,000	-1.2
Great Britain	1,376,500	-800	-0.1
NI	55,000	+200	+0.4
UK	1,431,500	-600	-0.2

Figures not available.

Excluding school leavers.

Doubts over boost for IMF quotas

From Our Economics Correspondent
Paris, Nov 22

Doubts on the need for a large and speedy increase in the size of the quotas of the countries belonging to the International Monetary Fund seem to have been cast at a meeting of top officials from the Group of Ten most powerful industrial nations here today.

The officials were meeting to discuss problems of liquidity facing the IMF, which is short of cash at the moment because it has lent a great deal in recent years.

Creditor countries in the Fund, which include such nations as the United States, Japan and Germany, are believed to have expressed reservations about proposals by the Fund staff for a rapid approval of an increase in quotas of between 50 and 100 per cent.

The size of a country's quota determines how much it may borrow from the IMF and how much it can be called upon to contribute.

To some extent the reluctance by the creditor nation to give more may be a bargaining tactic as the Fund tries to reach agreement on the scale of the next scheduled quota increase, the seventh of its kind.

Creditor countries seem to have argued that the most urgent task facing the Fund is to implement the two planned increases in its resources.

These are a general 30 per cent increase in quotas, which now looks likely to go into effect in the middle of 1978, and a special "Witteveen" facility to raise money from oil producers and rich western nations.

The Witteveen facility has run into serious trouble because of delays in ratification by the American Congress. The United States is the most important industrial sponsor of the facility, which aims to raise \$10,000m.

Officials in the Administration still say they expect to get congressional approval for the facility but now admit they may have to wait until autumn next year.

Since the facility was originally intended to provide a "bridging loan" until there could be a large increase in quotas, the fact that it has been delayed poses a threat to its ultimate usefulness.

Officials at the Group of Ten are also thought to have discussed an increase in the General Arrangements to Borrow, which provide funds for lending to members of the Group of Ten through the IMF. At present the GAB stands at \$6,400m, which is generally thought to be insufficient.

Johnson & Firth Brown seek £10m by rights issue

In brief

Dismay over transfer of Freightliners to BR

The Government decision to transfer Freightliners back to British Rail was greeted with dismay by the National Freight Corporation yesterday but received a cautious welcome from British Rail.

Sir Daniel Pettit, NFC chairman, said: "I am sad that such a decision has been taken on what are clearly non-commercial grounds, and for reasons which do not relate to the way the company has been managed and its track record."

British Rail said that while it was glad the Government had recognized its arguments, it would be "inheriting problems", not least trying to work within limited investment possibilities.

Vauxhall men vote to return today

The most expensive strike in Vauxhall Motors' recent history ended yesterday when a meeting of 800 skilled workers at its Ellesmere Port plant voted to return to work today.

All car, van and truck production stopped during the five-week dispute over craft differentials. It cost the company more than £80m worth of vehicles at showroom prices.

£79m financing pact

Agreements to finance two contracts worth £79m between Simon-Carves and the Soviet foreign trade organization were signed yesterday between Moscow, Grenfell and the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR. These will be guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. The contracts are part of the Inter-governmental Agreement signed by the United Kingdom and Russia in February, 1975.

Pembroke consortium

Texaco and Gulf are to form a consortium to be known as the Pembroke Cracking Company, to construct the joint catalytic cracking unit they plan to build at Pembroke at a cost of between £250m and £300m.

Foundry expansion

S. Russell and Sons, Leicester, part of the S. E. E. Group, yesterday announced it had started work on a £2m expansion scheme which will increase output of its two foundries by 55 per cent. The Government is providing £500,000 under the Foundry Aid Scheme.

Leyland UK tool deal

Leyland Cars has placed orders worth £1.5m with a British machine tool manufacturer. The contracts cover the supply of rotary transfer machines and other equipment from Wavis Engineering of Solihull. Wavis said the orders would be "widely welcomed as a clear proof of Leyland's stated intention of buying British machine tool equipment whenever possible."

Trade deficit with Japan may be lower next year and dollar stronger

Cuts in US imports of oil forecast

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Nov 22

A reduction in United States oil imports and a cut in the trade deficit with Japan are both likely in 1978. These developments could produce a significant reduction in the balance of payments deficit and so serve to strengthen the dollar.

Dr James Schlesinger, the Energy Secretary, stated here that oil imports in 1978 were likely to fall to 8.1 million barrels a day from the present record level of 8.5 million barrels. He said he expected the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to decide against a further oil price increase at its meeting in Caracas next month.

Mr Leslie Widman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs, said the Treasury used somewhat different oil import figures from those used by the

Department of Energy. The Treasury was not convinced there would be much of a reduction in imports next year. He admitted that if Dr Schlesinger's figures were accurate then this could translate into a cut of roughly \$2,000m in the import bill.

Dr Schlesinger's estimate of a 400,000 barrel a day cut in imports depends, to a large extent, on heavy output of Alaskan oil more than offsetting any rise in demands resulting from the Government's effort to build up a strategic petroleum reserve of 250 million barrels.

Department of Energy experts believe Dr Schlesinger's prediction might be on the optimistic side, but they stress that the trend should be clearly towards a lower overall import level. They add that the prediction depends on the economy growing at the forecast rate, rather than at a faster rate.

The Carter Administration is

forecasting a 5 per cent growth rate for real gross national product next year. Many economists see this as being too optimistic, and a lower rate will produce even lower levels of oil imports.

Present estimates suggest a trade deficit this year of up to \$30,000m and fears of a deficit of equal size, or even larger, have been the main factors behind the recent pressures on the dollar. It appears, however, that some actual improvement in the trade deficit may be attained in 1978.

Progress in talks between the United States and Japanese governments on a reduction in the Japanese current account surplus could have a substantial greater impact on reducing the 1978 deficit than the new estimate of a reduction in oil imports.

Mr Richard Rivers, the general counsel at the office of the United States special trade representative, who has

just returned from a round of negotiations in Tokyo, said today that some progress had been achieved.

He said that Mr Robert Strauss, the United States trade ambassador, was likely to go to Tokyo for further negotiations in the next month. He added that in his talks in Tokyo this week "we had a frank exchange of views... we made a series of suggestions to the Japanese on how they should reduce their overall balance of payments surplus."

Dr Schlesinger said the Administration was "cautiously optimistic" that Opec would agree to freeze oil prices at its Caracas meeting. He said that his recent talks with the Shah of Iran and with Arab oil producers disclosed that the leading Opec members were actually aware that policies that would be adopted by all not just by the consuming countries, to tackle the problem of future supply insufficiency.

Call to restrict PO monopoly

Use of the Post Office's monopoly power is now a serious threat to the development of the United Kingdom's communication industry and the services provided to business and the public, according to a report published yesterday by the National Association of Radio Communication Services.

The association, which represents companies in the message handling industry such as radio paging and car telephone companies, calls for an Act of Parliament to remove the monopoly powers from the corporation and transfer them to the Minister for Industry, who would then be responsible for permitting and licensing specific areas of competition.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

If the Post Office divested itself of many of the ancillary services, and the provision of various equipments, the capital and management effort released would provide a much better service to the public.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

There is a growing body of opinion, the report says, to support the view that the aim of the Post Office should be to provide an efficient mail and telephone service.

EEC may fix minimum import prices for steel

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, November 22

Minimum import prices for steel may be introduced by the EEC if President Carter approves proposals for fixing reference prices for steel imported into the United States.

This emerged after discussions here late last night between EEC trade and foreign ministers on the crisis in the Community's steel industry. The ministers agreed that the nine American prices are set.

Speaking for Britain, Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, gave a warning of the danger of imported steel undermining the Community's system of guideline prices designed to bolster the sagging market.

In a report to the ministers, Viscount Edmond Davignon, the EEC commissioner in charge of steel, said plans in the EEC were operating at no more than 60 per cent capacity and there was no sign of improvement.

Viscount Davignon indicated that next month the Commission would propose raising the guideline prices for a range of steel products and the mandatory prices for reinforcing bars by up to 15 per cent next year, but probably in several instalments.

He also outlined a scheme for subsidizing the interest rate charged on restructuring loans to Community steel plants out of the receipts from the tariff levied on imported steel.

Speaking at a seminar on multinational companies organized by the English-Speaking Union, Mr Methven said that the financial benefits to the Community of overseas investment were staggering.

The issue would now be raised with the Prime Minister Mr Methven said. He said that the CBI had also commissioned a survey to show the benefits of overseas investment and the adverse consequences of the present regulations.

He disputed the argument that investment overseas would be at the expense of investment by companies in this country.

Dr Austin Pearce, chairman of Esso Petroleum, told the seminar that planning agreements were the thin end of a wedge which would be driven between multinational affiliates and their parent company.

"When the development of such a planning agreement runs its full course, it is in my view a form of nationalization by stealth," Dr Pearce said. "It is the flow of information started to a bureaucracy which accepted no commercial responsibility for its actions, and whose jobs would not disappear if the company failed."

There was no mechanism to stop the slide to government control, except by pulling out.

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

CBI plea on overseas investment

By Malcolm Brown

The Confederation of British Industry is continuing to press the Government for an end to exchange controls on direct investment overseas. Mr John Methven, director general of the Confederation said in London yesterday.

Speaking at a seminar on multinational companies organized by the English-Speaking Union, Mr Methven said that the financial benefits to the Community of overseas investment were staggering.

The issue would now be raised with the Prime Minister Mr Methven said. He said that the CBI had also commissioned a survey to show the benefits of overseas investment and the adverse consequences of the present regulations.

He disputed the argument that investment overseas would be at the expense of investment by companies in this country.

Dr Austin Pearce, chairman of Esso Petroleum, told the seminar that planning agreements were the thin end of a wedge which would be driven between multinational affiliates and their parent company.

"When the development of such a planning agreement runs its full course, it is in my view a form of nationalization by stealth," Dr Pearce said. "It is the flow of information started to a bureaucracy which accepted no commercial responsibility for its actions, and whose jobs would not disappear if the company failed."

There was no mechanism to stop the slide to government control, except by pulling out.

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

Business Diary, page 31

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Interest rates in the melting pot

Do the monetary authorities want minimum lending rate up this Friday or not? Certainly, short-term rates continued their recent upward trend yesterday. In particular, three month treasury bills were nudging levels, which, if repeated at Friday's weekly bill tender, would signal a modest rise in MLR.

The answer at this stage—and things can change fast—is that the authorities almost certainly do not want MLR to rise unless market forces over the next 48 hours become so strong that, in the longer run, resistance could only prove self-defeating. The reasons for this attitude are threefold.

First, the authorities are almost certainly reluctant to be panicked into action so long as they feel that the October bank lending figures may not in fact herald a significant change in trend.

Second, they may well not have decided yet on what the appropriate measures should be to deal with the potential money supply overshoot. Should they let MLR edge up gently? Or should they go the whole hog, pushing MLR by at least a couple of points in one go and reinforcing the move by quantitative controls on the banking sector?

Finally, there must be very strong political pressure to hold the ship steady for the moment. Even a modest rise in MLR, particularly if it merely served to aggravate nerves, could put a further cut in mortgage rate in jeopardy. Little needs to be said about how the Government would probably view the thought of a larger rise at this stage.

Meanwhile, the recent increased interest in the Government's two variable stocks did not apparently spill over particularly strongly into the first batch of floating rate local authority bonds yesterday—margins being fixed at 3 per cent over six month LIBOR for the three year bonds and 3 per cent for the issues of just under five years.

Comet

Volatile demand for consumer durables

The consumer durables market is still exhibiting unsteady volatility. After a poor summer the sales of white and brown goods simultaneously staged a recovery in September and October only to fall back again this month.

To bring the picture up to date, Comet Radiovision said yesterday that there had been an encouraging pick-up in the past four days which it hopes is a favourable omen for the Christmas period.

Conventional wisdom suggests that higher wage settlements and tax handouts will combine to push disposable income into spending on durables; certainly the shares of durable retailers have gone some way in following the multiple stores up relative to the market.

An important factor is replacement buying of goods bought in the 1973 consumer boom which is thought to be having a real impact on the market.

In the case of Comet this has all come at a critical time. In the year to end-August it made £3.9m pre-tax profits against £1.5m last year.

This year should see the end of its main expansion programme into satellite shops, so a good deal of future growth depends on the validity of the more optimistic projections regarding consumer spending rather than mere physical extension.

Certainly in the medium-term expansion should leave Comet with an 8 to 10 per cent market share against its current 5 per cent and the low ownership of durables in the United Kingdom against comparable countries suggest that is a strong position to be in. On a shorter view the shares at 148p, up 12p yesterday, are selling at 10 times fully-adjusted earnings with a yield of 3.6 per cent and are taking full account of immediate consumer spending prospects.

Johnson & Firth Brown

Paper for the short term

A year ago Johnson & Firth Brown was prepared to raise £10.3m on a one-for-three rights issue at 35p, at 25 per cent discount on the prevailing market price, to buy another Sheffield steelmaker, Dunford & Elliott. That idea was scrapped, but it was exactly the kind of imaginative expansionism that the market had come to expect from the JFB management. Twelve months later, with Dunford in the end subsumed

by Lomho, the steel upturn which the imagination relied on has still not happened. But JFB is now able to raise £10.1m on the much better terms of a one-for-five at 50p, a discount of only 15 per cent.

The difference in the reasons for the issues, however, could not be more marked. Since the unsuccessful attempt on Dunford, the acquisition by JFB of British Rollmakers and a change of accounting policy for deferred tax reduced gearing from 71 per cent to 57 per cent and a rescheduling of debt since the June year end has virtually replaced a bank overdraft with a £13m seven-year term loan with an average interest rate currently of nine per cent.

Raising of £10m a year ago would have been a gamble on expansion; the present issue is an insurance policy against continuing recession, and yet it still is not cheap.

At the issue price the yield is 14.2 per cent, expensive money even though JFB will start recovering advance corporation tax in 1980, and even more paper is added to the vast quantities of JFB paper already circulating. Without the issue, the number of shares in issue by December, assuming the likely conversion of the convertible preference shares would have increased by 50 per cent to more than 90m. This rights adds a fifth on to that.

With industrial action both internally and at customers' works affecting first half profits, even though growth is expected for the full year, the shares are likely to be under pressure. The benefits to shareholders in taking up the rights, thus depend even more on the effects of the upturn when it comes. JFB's caution in raising money may be good for the shareholders in the long-term. In the short-term it bridges the gap before the upturn turns the investment into profit, while cash flow is inadequate to meet heavy capital investment and a growing working capital requirement. Shareholders may well feel that the underwriters can best be left to do this.



Half-yearly vignettes from the merchant banks are a poor substitute for actual figures so all shareholders have to go on as fairly anonymous statements. And one of the oddities over the past week has been that results have not been as uniformly good as the sharp fall in interest rates and dealing opportunities in the equity and gilt markets would have indicated.

Yesterday it was Hambros's turn, whose chairman is Mr Jocelyn Hambros (above), to show its paces with earnings well above those of the corresponding period last year. Merchant banking appears to have been the star performer with a "substantial increase" though that has stemmed mainly from lower interest rates and gilt market activities which are unlikely to be repeated in the second half.

Meanwhile, the overall level of loan demand fell back although acceptances were higher. The Euromarkets continue to be a growth point with private bond placements especially profitable, helped in part by the link with Prudential Assurance of America which took the whole of two private Scandinavian placements.

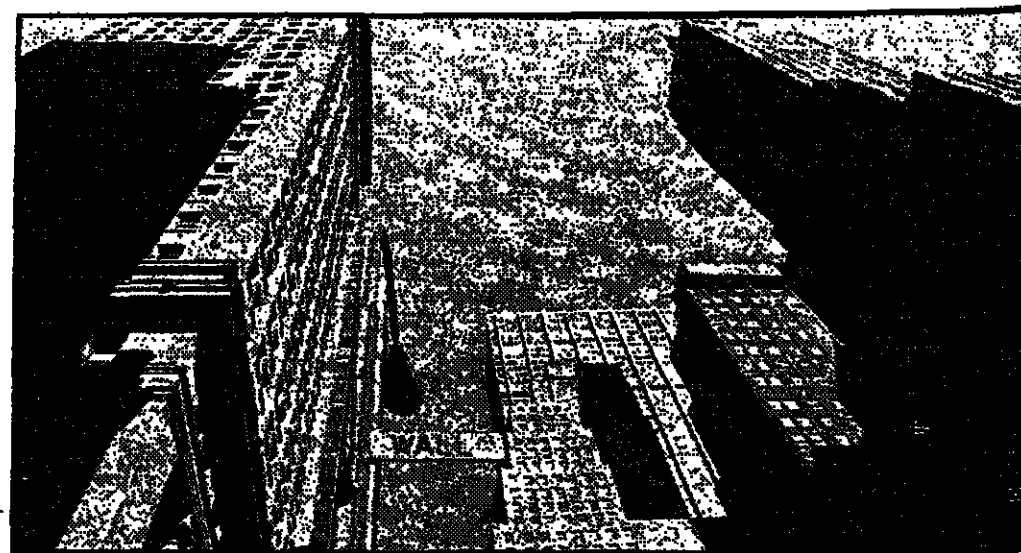
Despite the further drop in the shipping market, bad shipping loans have now worked themselves out of Hambros's system and even though the tanker problems have now filtered through to bulk carriers the bank is happy about its low exposure here.

Underlining its confidence—and perhaps to upstage the Treasury for turning down its application for a higher dividend last year when Hambros Life went public—Hambros is lumping the whole of its maximum permitted increase this year into the interim dividend—raising it by 1p to 3.85p—where its surplus advanced corporation tax payments means it can do so at a reduced cost. That the shares slipped 7p to 208p despite this news is testament to shareholders' disaffection now that interest rates look to be heading upwards.

Stock markets under stress—3

End of an institutional era in the United States?

The last of three articles on pressures for change in the securities markets looks at the position in America



New York skyline above Wall Street

The plans of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission to bring in far-reaching changes to the American securities industry in 1978 are bewildering many people in the United States and overseas. These plans are seen widely as an attempt to overturn a complex system of rules, institutions and traditions which took years to establish and which have produced the largest and best managed stock market system in the world.

The aims of the SEC are well known and have already had a striking effect. A series of big mergers between brokerage houses has recently been announced, some have been laid by some stock exchanges to create electronic links between themselves and some exchanges have devised programmes to expand into commodity futures and associated types of investment options trading.

Discussions in Britain about restrictive practices in the securities industry will inevitably be influenced by the developments in America. It is unlikely that foreign stock market authorities will take action in their own areas until they can clearly assess the results of the decisions being taken in Washington.

Possibly the most important, and certainly the most imminent, SEC step concerns the elimination of "off-board" trading restrictions on American stock exchanges. These restrictions lay down that broker-dealers must be done only on the floors of exchanges and through designated market specialists in listed securities.

The impact of this will make the SEC decision of a year or two ago to abolish fixed brokerage commission rates appear of minor significance.

The SEC tentatively planned to implement its decision on these restrictions by first making a public statement about it, yet it seems likely that it will postpone the move. The measure is designed to eliminate rules which the commission claims foster anti-competitive practices.

Mr Andrew Klein, the commission's director of market regulation, says that the restrictions limit the creation of "a better chance for investors to view the market as a whole and obtain the best prices. There have been hundreds of highly detailed suggestions on what the components of such a system should be, but many people agree with the sort of ideas that Mr Batten has been outlining.

Mr Batten argues forcefully that the brokerage industry is "fantastically competitive" and that it is nonsense to assert that getting rid of the off-board trading restrictions will enhance competition. He and many other leaders of the industry believe that this step will reduce, rather than increase competition.

Mr Klein warned the SEC in August that this move would result in less efficient pricing of securities, no protection for the public on orders on which a price limit is placed, and fragmentation, not consolidation, of the market for the shares of corporations. He said that "in the long run the securities industry could evolve into what amounts to a handful of very large, well capitalized firms, among which there would be less competition than existed today."

Mr Batten adds that "the small guy will have no useful role under such a system". Men like Mr Klein, Mr Batten and Mr Batten accept that there might be benefits in reforms, but they insist that eliminating the off-board trading rules should only take place when the main features of a national market system had been fully developed.

Such a national system would bind all the stock exchanges of the nation together, producing more uniform competition and a better chance for investors to view the market as a whole and obtain the best prices. There have been hundreds of highly detailed suggestions on what the components of such a system should be, but many people agree with the sort of ideas that Mr Batten has been outlining.

At a dinner in Boston earlier this month, Mr Batten noted that the New York Stock Exchange had been calling for some time for a composite quotation system displaying both bid and asked prices for a uniform system of rules and regulations to be applied to all market makers; a system of trading surveillance requirements established and monitored by a central authority; and a system of market making around the country;

exchanges in this country". Mr Klein, the head of the American Stock Exchange (AMEX), has given a warning that the SEC decision could "cripple" the brokerage business. He strongly disagrees with the SEC view that trading in listed securities is restricted by the off-board trading rules.

The SEC's plans are the result of congressional moves in 1975 calling for abolition of restrictive practices in the securities industry and for the creation of a national market system for securities. The SEC is under great pressure from Congress to move faster on this front, but this pressure is to some degree offset by a big lobbying campaign by the stock exchanges, by the chairman of many publicly quoted companies and by most brokers.

The elimination of the off-board trading restrictions, which seems inevitable some time next year, will at a stroke result in large brokers making markets in securities—dealing from inventories of securities and transacting business from their offices rather than from the floors of the exchanges.

Mr Robert Batten, president of the AMEX, says that abolishing these rules will be "a bad thing for the public and bad for the markets".

Mr Batten argues forcefully that the brokerage industry is "fantastically competitive" and that it is nonsense to assert that getting rid of the off-board trading restrictions will enhance competition. He and many other leaders of the industry believe that this step will reduce, rather than increase competition.

Mr Klein warned the SEC in August that this move would result in less efficient pricing of securities, no protection for the public on orders on which a price limit is placed, and fragmentation, not consolidation, of the market for the shares of corporations. He said that "in the long run the securities industry could evolve into what amounts to a handful of very large, well capitalized firms, among which there would be less competition than existed today."

Mr Batten adds that "the small guy will have no useful role under such a system". Men like Mr Klein, Mr Batten and Mr Batten accept that there might be benefits in reforms, but they insist that eliminating the off-board trading rules should only take place when the main features of a national market system had been fully developed.

Such a national system would bind all the stock exchanges of the nation together, producing more uniform competition and a better chance for investors to view the market as a whole and obtain the best prices. There have been hundreds of highly detailed suggestions on what the components of such a system should be, but many people agree with the sort of ideas that Mr Batten has been outlining.

At a dinner in Boston earlier this month, Mr Batten noted that the New York Stock Exchange had been calling for some time for a composite quotation system displaying both bid and asked prices for a uniform system of rules and regulations to be applied to all market makers; a system of trading surveillance requirements established and monitored by a central authority; and a system of market making around the country;

exchanges in this country". Mr Klein, the head of the American Stock Exchange (AMEX), has given a warning that the SEC decision could "cripple" the brokerage business. He strongly disagrees with the SEC view that trading in listed securities is restricted by the off-board trading rules.

The SEC's plans are the result of congressional moves in 1975 calling for abolition of restrictive practices in the securities industry and for the creation of a national market system for securities. The SEC is under great pressure from Congress to move faster on this front, but this pressure is to some degree offset by a big lobbying campaign by the stock exchanges, by the chairman of many publicly quoted companies and by most brokers.

the commission's regulatory skills are constantly improving. He points out that it is questionable how much of a national market system has to be in place before the off-board rules can be eliminated and he says that, indeed, it is not all that difficult to construct a bid-ask consolidated tape.

Mr Klein seems not to be worried by all the objections to the commission's plans and by the anxieties on Wall Street. He points out that the SEC has a clear mandate from Congress to make the industry more competitive.

Mr Klein also stresses that some companies have "delisted" and found better conditions for their stocks in the over-the-counter market. At any rate, "D-day"—the day when the off-board restrictions are removed—is approaching and the brokerage houses and the stock exchanges are preparing for the event. Some brokers will find it impossible to survive, while others will become more specialized in particular areas of the investment business. It seems improbable that the consequences will be as grave as many brokers suggest.

However, the SEC has failed so far to demonstrate clearly and effectively what the main benefits of its actions will be to the general public. A more competitive brokerage industry may result but, as was the case with the abolition of fixed commission rates, the big institutional investors, rather than private individuals, may be the main beneficiaries.

Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent

Peter Norman

Why West German unions are likely to turn a deaf ear to the five wise men

unemployment is unlikely to fall significantly below the million level.

The five-man body is not a team of government officials in disguise and reports in the past have at times given governments in Bonn more grounds for annoyance than food for thought.

It is also fair to point out that although its members are popularly referred to as "the five wise men", the body cannot claim to be infallible. In drawing up their prognosis, the five academics making up the council have shown as much ability to err as other forecasters in recent years.

But their latest report is an attempt to break the log jam in economic thinking in West Germany which has arisen since the recession, as it has become apparent that the standard recipes for creating economic

growth and restoring full employment have failed.

The council has taken the thesis that it is inadequate demand that is restricting growth in West Germany and turned it on its head.

It argues that what is needed is more production. For in a market economy like West Germany, a lack of profitable production possibilities brings in its wake a lack of income and in turn a lack of demand.

Four of the five council members plead that wage increases next year should be held down to 3.5 per cent—level with the expected rise in productivity—as opposed to a 5.5 per cent increase and unchanged policies assumed in the "status quo" forecast.

They say that a wage increase of this order as part of a medium-term strategy could

pave the way for a 5 per cent next year growth in GNP and a decline in the number of unemployed of 200,000 a year.

Such thinking takes into account the continuing absence of strong industrial investment in West Germany and the growing tendency on the part of industrialists to shift production abroad.

It also runs counter to what has been the main alternative theory for restoring full employment as propagated by the German trade union movement.

This hinges on higher state spending and the awarding of real wage increases to increase demand, at the same time as reducing working hours through agreements reached in collective wage bargaining so that the available work in the country can be "more fairly" shared out.

All five members of the council argue that this course could lead to a recession after 1978. To back this standpoint the five wise men synthesise recent demands. They postulate wage increases next year of 7.5 per cent (including a notional 2 per cent to account for the introduction of shorter working hours) and a DM6,000m increase in government spending, part of which would be used to employ an extra 50,000 public employees.

Their conclusion is that gross national product would grow by only 2.5 per cent in real terms next year and that a temporary fall in unemployment by the end of 1978 would shortly afterwards be threatened by a slackness in overall demand. The five members of the council have undoubtedly been

right in pinpointing costs and particularly labour costs as the principal factor restricting production and employment in West Germany. Viewed internationally, unit labour costs in the federal republic are among the highest in the western world.

Where their report is less satisfactory is in its apparent disregard of the political and social realities in the federal republic.

For all the important wage rounds for 1978 are already under way. The powerful IG Metall trade union has already submitted a claim for wage increases of 7 per cent for the 210,000 workers in the Ruhr and Bremen steel industries.

As inflation this year and next is unlikely to rise above the 4 per cent level, the claim represents a demand for a substantial real wage increase. Furthermore, it has been made in an industry that is working at capacity and is making heavy losses.

In the circumstances, pleading for a 3.5 per cent wage increase appears to be just so much wishful thinking and unlikely to make much of a contribution to finally curbing back unemployment in Germany.

On the other hand German trade unions have a reputation for moderation. Could they not even at this late stage, scale down their expectations and give a low wage strategy a chance to solve unemployment?

The chances of such a development must be rated as slim indeed. In one sense the German unions are moderate. Strikes are rare. But per cent of the recession was at its deepest point, the German worker, insofar as he was employed, was able to profit from his real annual increase in wages.

It will take more than a 450-page report produced by a team of five academics to change such an attitude. It is also doubtful whether the majority of Germany's employers would be prepared to risk loss of production through strike action to put a brake in the annual rise in their wage costs.

Our presence will make your heart grow fonder.

If you are resident overseas, the best way of keeping in touch with events back home is by reading The Times. However, due to rising costs and to avoid any unnecessary wastage of newsprint, The Times has reduced the number of copies offered for casual sale—both at home and abroad.

Don't risk losing touch. Place a subscription with The Times and be sure of your daily copy. For further information and subscription details, write to: The Subscriptions Manager, The Times, New Printing House Square, London WC1X 8EZ.



Business Diary: Hayes comes to market • BATsmanship

It is no surprise to hear of the Government's attitude towards the common agricultural policy of the EEC. Since John Giffen became Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food just over a year ago the department has become one of the most talkative in Whitehall.

The claim made in Edinburgh yesterday that British policy did not reflect "an over-turning of the basic structure of the policy so much as the need to reform its operation" has been made many times this year. The difference yesterday was that it was made by a civil servant rather than a politician. Brian Hayes, aged 48, has blossomed into a public figure this year after more than 20 years in the ministry of which

most were spent in posts demanding delicate domestic and international haggling about food policy.

His long speech, given at a conference organized by the East of Scotland College of Agriculture, reflected Giffen's determination to strike a balance in national food policy in which the needs of consumers are not pushed into the background by the demands of farmers.

That made Hayes's speech doubly remarkable since as Deputy Secretary (Agriculture) at the ministry he is one of Whitehall's top men in farming. He is also a member of the advisory committee, chaired by Lord Rothschild, which guides the fledgling Centre for Agricultural Strategy at the University of Reading.

On Monday the centre published a report by Professor John Marsh of the University of Aberdeen calling for safeguards in EEC farm policy to discourage farmers from creating expensive surpluses. The ministry reacted instantly with an unusually long statement which applauded the Marsh report as "a stimulating paper whose ideas certainly deserve study".

Since Hayes is in charge of farm policy at the ministry and the advisory committee to the body which published the Marsh report, the anonymous

ministry assessment can safely be regarded as his.

Sir Richard Dobson surprised everybody—perhaps even himself—with that rare private speech, the release of a tape-recording of which was followed by his departure from the chairmanship of British Leyland.

Yesterday, it was the turn of his successor as chairman of BAT Industries, Peter Macadam, to surprise people in a speech. Macadam's remarks were, however, made on the record and are likely to have no impact.

Speaking in London Macadam told the English Speaking Union that "a year or so ago" the company looked at a number of other European countries as an alternative headquarters to Britain.

In the end, he said, the tobacco group stayed because of British leaders' contacts in the world and understanding of "world situations". A civil service that was clever and clean, and an enduring political stability.

Macadam did not mention the relocation study in the last report and accounts—for the year to September 30 last—although he did grumble about United Kingdom taxation of dividends from overseas and the Bullock report majority proposals on industrial democracy.

For three years Karl Heinz Kirchner has been trying to alert his fellow West Germans to the problem of crimes committed by the well-off, particularly shoplifting.

He has at last made headlines—but promptly landed himself in a row with the church. He is general manager of a body calling itself the Committee for Combating Crimes of Affluence and was reported as saying that 117 men had been caught shoplifting in one Munich store in a year.

Today Kirchner, who says he was misquoted, is a sadder but wiser man. The reports were promptly and angrily denied by the Munich diocesan authorities which had checked and found that there had been no case of a genuine nun being involved in shoplifting.

It seems that some of the more enterprising German

shoplifters are using disguises such as nuns' habits or, in contrast, well-padded maternity frocks.

Such tricks will make the life of store detectives even more difficult than before. It is expected that goods worth DM2,500m (about £615m) will be stolen from German shops this year.

According to Horst-Ludwig Riemer, economic adviser of North Rhine Westphalia and founder member of Kirchner's committee, the shoplifters' booty will be equivalent to the cost of 300,000 Volkswagens.

Sidney Spiro has been keeping his head down since he retired as chairman of Charter Consolidated, the United Kingdom mining finance house, over a year ago, although he said at the time he planned to keep busy.

Now he pops up as a director of Bamburgh Bank where they are after his wide range of international contacts. Spiro is particularly strong on North America, South Africa, and the Far East. Hambros is said to be keen to expand in Australia.

Spiro made his name in international banking by developing the South African money market in the late 1950s and 1960s with the establishment of Union Acceptances and the Discount House of South Africa. He is on the board of Barclays International which is busy in South Africa.

The Treasury is tight-lipped by nature but even the mandatory secrecy that the IMF demands shall surround the visit here of its "technicians" this week. The IMF office in Washington is saying nothing—perhaps the only office in the American capital to be so reticent—and officials are insisting that Whitehall do likewise. The leader of the five-man delegation is as before a Briton, Alan Whitmore. In place of David Finch this time is a senior fund adviser called Aziz Ali Makhadmeh, who may take over from Whitmore when the team again comes to look at the books in May. The third of the three senior people is a Mr Brau from Germany. That's about all there is to be gleaned. Whitmore had breakfast yesterday morning with Ken Gowers, Second Permanent Secretary in the Treasury's overseas finance section. We hope Gowers told him that a country really ought to know who are its auditors.



Brian Hayes

Europa

Only in West Germany does manufacturing industry still hold first place

Rapid growth to the top of marketed services sector

Most of what we produce is intangible. Marketed services like retailing, transport and finance are the most important single source of national income in all Europe countries except Germany. Here manufacturing still just holds first place.

This could be because Germany, unlike the other countries, obtains a higher value added per person from manufacturing than from marketed services. None the less the importance of marketed services is still growing in all the countries, including Germany. Both volume and prices for this sector have risen at above average rates.

Between 1970 and 1975 manufacturing, the second largest activity, declined in importance in Germany and the United Kingdom, but remained reasonably steady in the other two countries. (Nineteen-seventy-five is the latest date for which comparable figures are available, but the pattern is unlikely to have changed since then.)

Rapid growth in Bonn and UK

Non-marketed services account for the greatest proportion (about one sixth) of national income in the United Kingdom and Germany. Growth in these two countries has been particularly rapid since relative volume and costs have both increased. In France relative costs have risen but volume has been held in check, while in Italy the increases in both volume and costs have been fairly small.

As a result the proportion of national income produced by these activities is one seventh in France and one eighth in Italy. In all four countries the non-marketed sector is more important in terms of numbers employed than it is in terms of value added. This is because output per person is low. A possible reason is that output is valued at cost and the allowance made for depreciation and capital is inadequate.

On the other hand if a service is not sold in the open market its value at the margin may be less than its cost. The remaining three sources of income are business, construction, fuel and power, and agriculture. In the United Kingdom building costs have risen so rapidly that this sector's share of value added has increased in spite of a fall in the volume of work. Italy and France have also shown net output price increases which have almost offset the drop in volume, but in Germany the increase in prices has been no greater than the average for the other sectors.

Fuel and power produces

SOURCES OF NATIONAL INCOME AND CONSUMPTION—1975

	Germany	France	UK	Italy
Value added (3) from:				
Marketed services (4)	38	46	46	41
Manufacturing	41	32	33	30
Non-marketed services (5)	16	14	17	12
Building and construction	9	9	7	9
Fuel and power	6	4	6	10
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3	6	2	10
Taxes linked to imports	3	3	1	3
Overseas income less expenditure	-2	-1	n	n
Consumption of fixed capital	-14	-13	-12	-11
Net national disposable income	100	100	100	100
Net borrowing (+) or lending (-)	-9	n	+3	n
National expenditure	91	100	103	100

Source: Table 2. National Accounts Detailed Tables 1970-1975. Statistical Office of the European Communities.
n=less than 0.5 per cent.
(1) VAT deductible on purchases of capital goods has been divided between the sources in proportion to their value added.
(2) VAT has been prorated between all sources except for non-marketed services.
(3) At market prices, including indirect taxes.
(4) Excluding net receipts of interest from other sectors.
(5) Public expenditure on education, health, defence and administration and domestic and other non-marketed services eg, charities and other non-profit institutions.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

No solace for sad shares as gilts shiver

With an unsettled monetary background looming large in sentiment investors were not disposed to put aside their present caution and for the seventh day running share prices lost ground.

Fears that interest rates may start an upward trend this week sent a shudder through both the equity and gilt-edged markets and though early losses were halved as late buyers came in the FT Index closed another 3.5 lower at 471.3.

Money supply and industrial worries were also in the forefront of dealers' minds but a higher number of bargains marked provided a more encouraging topic of conversation. At 5.491 they were 1,000 more

A sad feature almost day after day is Lucas Industries. Dealers closed 4p at 2110 and 2110 and yesterday they slipped a further 3p to 2053p.

Lucas has to cope with labour trouble and Legrand but that is not all. Many are wondering how Lucas will stick to its massive capital investment programme when profits are under pressure without either scaling it down or looking for external cash when market conditions may not be good.

than the level of the past few days.

Long-dated gilts were hard hit early on by the interest rate talk and in some cases lost up to three full points. By the close these falls had been pared to one and a quarter points with "shorts" ending half a point off.

Amid continuing speculation about its third-quarter profits

due tomorrow, ICI closed unchanged at 352p after touching 355p at one stage.

Worries over today's half-price figures left Metal Box 10p lower at 290p while others to lose ground were Pisons 10p to 385p and Unilever where the fall was 8p to 505p.

In the stores sector Comet Radio had a volatile day in front of and after figures. Caution ahead of the statement had the shares down as low as 133p but after the statement some of the "bears" were forced to close down and the shares ended 14p to the good at 150p.

Elsewhere Boots were hit by a chart "sell" recommendation and closed 4p off at 2110 and 2110 and yesterday they slipped a further 3p to 2053p.

The Rhodesia sanction-breaking moves against Lucas hit the shares to the tune of 3p to 262p and Tesco eased another

penny to 40p in front of figures which are viewed with some trepidation because of the high street grocery price war.

One of the major causes of market depression was a 29.7m rights issue from Johnson Firth Brown which left the shares two points lower at 57p. Fading bid hopes lowered John Brown 7p to 226p elsewhere in the sector and another weak spot was to be found in Vickers which slipped 4p to 173p.

Reports that BOC is planning moves to raise its Airco stake did nothing for the shares at 75p but Weir Group continued to react to the breakdown of the merger with S. Osborn losing 6p to 122p. Barton Teacup received some speculative support closing with a rise of 10p to 92p after recent figures which proved a disappointment.

In the shipping sector the speculators withdrew from Furness Withy with the shares

dipping 12p to 328p. British & Commonwealth was another in retreat losing 9p to 275p and after a statement Ropner 'A' was lowered 3p to 45p.

Favourable comment helped Carrington Viyella to go against the trend rising a penny to 34p but most of the drinks shares spent the day in retreat, notably Guinness 5p to 183p, A. Bell 4p to 360p and Bass Charrington 3p to 150p.

To leisure shares to come under some pressure were Coral which dipped 6p to 227p and Ladbroke where the fall was 9p to 175p. In oils Oil Exploration retreated 8p to 229p as profits were taken after some recent strong, if speculative, gains.

There were isolated spots of firmness in insurances notably Royal 4p to 380p, and Sun Alliance where the rise was 3p to 550p. But interest rate worries hit properties with

Chesterfield at 285p. Great Portland 278p and AEPC at 107p all down by five points. There was an even weaker performance from Stock Conversion which closed 3p lower at 220p.

Profits below market expectations hit Powell Duffryn with the shares closing 25p off at 185p.

Dealers are looking for better things from French Kier now that losses on road contracts have been eliminated. Lucium have been eliminated. Lucium are expected to be around 12.5m, against £825,000, while for the full year sights are set on a rise from £3.1m to £5.5m. Better liquidity will lower interest charges and this year the figures will not have to bear a 21.1m write-down on land. The shares were steady at 28p.

185p. Transpacific Paper was another to slump losing 5p to 67p after its statement, but those scoring gains included Sketchley 2p to 92p and Narborough which added 12p to 33p. Leoboff slipped 21p to 47p.

After hours, ICI extended its rally further and most of the "blue chips" gained a penny or two. Colmore Investments came out with lower profits and lost 4p for a close of 25p. Equity turnover on October 21 was £46.13m (12.181 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were 847 incl. GEC, BP, Shell, Bechtel, GUS, A. ICI, BP partly paid, Unilever, Weir Group, Boots, Powell Duffryn, Metal Box, Furness Withy, Comet Radiovision, Darty International and Avon Rubber.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Div	Pay	Year's
	(£m)	(£m)	(pence)	date	total
AB&C Reg Inv (F)	(—)	0.05(0.02)	0.98(0.26)	9/1	0.50(0.25)
Bradford Prop (1)	1.6(1.7)	1.6(1.7)	3.3(3.0)	6/1	(—)
John Carr (F)	16.1(13.2)	2.5(2.0)	1.2(1.0)	16/1	(—)
Post Office (1)	0.2(0.22)	0.2(0.22)	0.75(0.48)	8/2	(—)
Cent Radiovision (F)	82.9(47.4)	3.8(1.4)	1.89(1.8)	10/2	3.5(2.1)
De Beers (1)	(—)	(—)	1.0(—)	(—)	(—)
De Beers (F)	5.6(4.8)	6.57(9.32)	1.56(1.26)	2/1	2.8(2.5)
Union & Co (1)	(—)	0.03(0.03)	1.5(1.3)	6/1	(—)
Eng Nat Inv (1)	(—)	0.03(0.03)	0.71(0.51)	(—)	(—)
Evans of Leeds (1)	(—)	0.47(0.30)	1.0(0.5)	13/1	(—)
Per Retailers (1)	(—)	0.04(0.15a)	1.0(0.5)	(—)	(—)
Hambros (1)	(—)	(—)	3.85(2.85)	(—)	(—)
S. Leoboff (1)	9.1(8.0)	0.87(0.76)	0.76(0.69)	31/12	(—)
Macdonald (1)	3.9(2.7)	0.30(0.38)	3.0(2.5)	6/1	(—)
Narborough (F)	6.2(5.0)	6.2(5.0)	5.1(5.1)	5/1	(—)
Powell Duffryn (1)	155.6(122.2)	1.8(1.2)	3.5(2.75)	13/1	(—)
Ropner Hides (1)	(—)	0.13(0.11)	1.06(0.95)	15/12	(—)
Sketchley (1)	16.1(13.6)	0.13(0.11)	0.69(0.51)	27/1	(—)
Sketchley (1)	16.1(13.6)	0.13(0.11)	0.69(0.51)	27/1	(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividends by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a—loss; b—pounds.

Sketchley makes clean sweep of records

By Our Financial Staff

An improvement in the industrial services side of Sketchley gave the group record sales and profits for the six months to September 30.

Pre-tax profits showed a near 70 per cent improvement, rising from £1m to £1.8m on sales up £2.4m to £16.2m. And Mr Gerald Wightman, chairman, forecasts "substantially improved results for the year though he warns shareholders that the exceptional rate of progress of the first half may not be maintained.

The changeable summer weather boosted trading on the dry cleaning side and a 6 per cent price increase in April helped margins.

At the end of the last financial year the profits split between the industrial services and dry cleaning divisions was about equal. But the chairman expects the latter sector to lose ground to the former in the current period, and he predicts industrial services accounting for around 70 per cent of profits by the early 1980s.

'Perks' for Arenson holders

Now that A Arenson is recovering after last year's turnaround into pre-tax profits of £470,000 shareholders are being offered a small incentive.

They are to get a 15 per cent discount on the retail price of bedroom and dining room units made by Arvin, a new Arenson subsidiary. The offer comes with the annual statement in which Mr Archie Arenson, chairman, says "I believe the group can maintain the momentum achieved in the past year and also push ahead with the vital task of improving profit margins".

Demand for group products is up to expectations and should improve still further.

Any general improvement in the United Kingdom economy affecting basic levels of demand will probably not be felt by the furniture industry before the autumn of 1978, or after the end of the group's current financial year, the chairman points out.

Fraser Ansbacher nearly but not quite in profit

former deputy chairman Mr Michael Richardson—attributable losses dwindled to £187,000 from £559,000.

The corresponding figures have been adjusted to exclude the results of Eastwood Leisure Holdings which was wholly written off in March. The group expects to dispose of it soon.

Meanwhile, Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank, has traded profitably.

The chairman says that he expects second-half results to be better than those for the first six months.

Wm Low spends to grow

Turnover so far this year has been well maintained at William Low, Scotland's largest independent supermarket group.

However, the sector is a tough one and a lot depends on the success of the group's services and new openings. Mr A. M. Drysdale, chairman, reports in his annual statement.

For this year, he expects a further material improve-

City verdict on Powell Duffryn: 'good, but must try harder'

By Alison Mitchell

The key factor in the half-time results of the Powell Duffryn Group is the interpretation of the word "significant".

For, at the time of the 16.6m rights issue in July, Sir Alec Ogilvie, chairman, reported that the year had begun well with the trading profit for the first quarter "significantly greater" than for the same period last time.

However an upturn in profits of around a quarter for the six months to September 30 failed to please the City. Markets men had been looking for a pre-tax profit in the region of £7.5m and a rise from £5m to £6.3m was just not enough.

The shares fell 25p to 185p.

Turnover rose £33.4m to £155.6m in the period, widening pre-tax margins by a full point to 5.3 per cent.

Much of the headway came from the engineering division. Growth, on this side, which has been promised over the years that the group is now beginning to show and the chairman is confident that there is still



Sir Alec Ogilvie, chairman.

a lot more to come. In the six months trading profit on this side increased from £2m to £3.4m.

Fuel distribution also showed a remarkable upturn. Compared to the heatwave summer of 1976, this year's changeable weather boosted profits from £225,000 to £758,000.

The strike earlier this year at the British Steel works at Port Talbot, hit the pollution control division, and turned a profit of £145,000 into a loss of £175,000. But Sir Alec is confident that this division will be back in the black for the full year.

The other troubled division, building services, contracting, slipped further into the red with an operating loss of £480,000 in the six months. Problems in France and local authority cut backs put paid to any hopes of an improvement. However there was a sustained increase in the contribution from Andrews Weatherfill due to Middle East contracts.

Interest charges in the half year increased by around 50 per cent to £680,000 and, despite the 56.6m rights issue, are likely to be above previous levels at the year end. This stems from shipping loans and United States investments. The chairman reports.

As predicted at the time of the rights issue, the interim dividend has gone up 25 per cent to 5.3p gross.

London Shop Property optimism

A cheerful annual report comes from London Shop Property Trust, the property and housebuilding concern. Sir Cyril Black, chairman, declares that, given a continuance of present national conditions, the board views the group's future with "restrained optimism".

During the first eight months of the calendar year 1977 the increase in rental income, from rent revisions, renewals and relettings and first lettings on new developments, was about £222,000 pa. The board intends to have a professional valuation of all the group's properties as at April 30 next. Pre-tax profits rose from £501,000 to £538,000 in 1976-77.

In their report, the auditors say the profit on redemption of mortgages has been created in the accounts as an exceptional item, the effect being to increase group profits by £27,000.

Overseas losses at James H. Dennis

Knocked by overseas losses, the Manchester-based engineer-

ing group, James H. Dennis, has fallen from the 1975-76 peak of £4.89m to £4.89m to £5.62m in the year to August 31 but pre-tax profits fell from a record of £392,000 to £302,000. These figures include a surplus on foreign exchange conversion of £7,000, against £13,000 last time.

No dividend as Peak tightens its belt

To conserve cash at Peak Investments (formerly Peak Trailers) until the slump in the caravan industry is over the directors are not recommending a final dividend. This is in spite of a rise in pre-tax profits of 40 per cent to £211,000 for the year to May 31. The board says that until caravans recover the group must tighten its belt.

A. A. Clark offer for Wintour Holdings

Windsor-based A. A. Clark is to make an offer for another group based in the same town, Wintour Holdings. The offer is 75p cash for each of the 397,143

Beaver helps CH Inds to bumper half time result

C. H. Industries, the motor accessories to paint's group, more than doubled pre-tax profits to £473,000 in the six months to September 30 as turnover soared from £2.7m to £6.3m.

The figures include the first six months trading of the recently-acquired Beaver Group. Mr Tim Healey, CH's chairman, put the Beaver profits contribution at roughly £100,000 in the period.

Trading profits of £500,000 were broken down to show 40 per cent from unit trim, 25 per cent from hard trim, 15 per cent from foam, 13 per cent from building products, and 7 per cent from property.

This indicates a dependence on the motor industry of just over 40 per cent which Mr Healey hopes to reduce to a third next year.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the Beaver acquisition had reduced the impact of seasonal factors and he expected second half profits to show some improvement on the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Within building products, the paint division, which consists of the Beaver Paint activities, and Hygiene Paint, made a £60,000 loss, and this is expected to be repeated in the second half. However, Mr Healey expects to show some improvement in the first half. However, the shares fell 2p to 23p yesterday.

Commenting on the future Mr Healey said the

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

How British Assets has beaten inflation

The year to September 30 last was a good one for the Edinburgh-based and income seeking British Assets Trust, the tenth largest investment trust in the country with 15,000 shareholders. They saw their income rise faster even than inflation. The dividend per share for the year went up by 25 per cent, compared with a rise in the retail price index of 18 per cent.

Briefly

The omens for more inflation beating look good. Sir Alexander Blair, chairman, points out in his annual report that for some time dividends in both the United States and the United Kingdom have failed to keep pace with profits earned for shareholders or with inflation.

But the board thinks that this is changing. There are signs that investors, boards of directors and even politicians are beginning to appreciate the importance of dividends. Dividend growth has accelerated in the last two years in both the United States and the United Kingdom, and the directors are optimistic about dividend prospects for British Assets shareholders.

The trust is managed by a specific management team with Sir Alexander Blair and Sir John Sime. It also has available to it the help of the other specialist teams within Ivory.

NEW BOUNSLAW STOCK
The first half-yearly interest payment on the new variable rate Bounslaw stock was £2.330, not of course, £2.337 as in yesterday's edition.

ALEXANDER BOWDEN
Group has agreed to make offer to acquire South Eastern Aviation Underwriters of Atlanta, Georgia, for \$12m in cash.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES
Coppen up to 7 per cent this week. Berley, Enderby and Rhonda cash raising £1m. Variable rate bonds favoured by Manchester (with £1m), Wigan, Wiltshire and Newham.

S. LEROFF (FOBELL)
Group confidently expected to show record profit for full year and "every indication" that 1978 will be a year of further growth in all divisions.

CITY ACRE PROF
Accounts for year to April 5, delayed due to unexpected resignation of former secretary and chief accountant. Board meeting November 29 to consider accounts and expected to be published immediately following meeting.

CENTREWAY
Chairman confirms that results for the year will show a material improvement.

NO PROBE
Proposed merger of Selection Trust and Kleeman Industrial Holdings is not to be referred to the National Commission.

MECCA-HULL CINEMAS
Mecca, a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan, is making an agreed bid of 12p a share in cash for Hull Cinemas, valuing it at about £70,000.

Recent Issues
New City of 1977-1978 (1977-1978) £1.00
New City of 1978-1979 (1978-1979) £1.00
New City of 1979-1980 (1979-1980) £1.00
New City of 1980-1981 (1980-1981) £1.00
New City of 1981-1982 (1981-1982) £1.00
New City of 1982-1983 (1982-1983) £1.00
New City of 1983-1984 (1983-1984) £1.00
New City of 1984-1985 (1984-1985) £1.00
New City of 1985-1986 (1985-1986) £1.00
New City of 1986-1987 (1986-1987) £1.00
New City of 1987-1988 (1987-1988) £1.00
New City of 1988-1989 (1988-1989) £1.00
New City of 1989-1990 (1989-1990) £1.00
New City of 1990-1991 (1990-1991) £1.00
New City of 1991-1992 (1991-1992) £1.00
New City of 1992-1993 (1992-1993) £1.00
New City of 1993-1994 (1993-1994) £1.00
New City of 1994-1995 (1994-1995) £1.00
New City of 1995-1996 (1995-1996) £1.00
New City of 1996-1997 (1996-1997) £1.00
New City of 1997-1998 (1997-1998) £1.00
New City of 1998-1999 (1998-1999) £1.00
New City of 1999-2000 (1999-2000) £1.00
New City of 2000-2001 (2000-2001) £1.00
New City of 2001-2002 (2001-2002) £1.00
New City of 2002-2003 (2002-2003) £1.00
New City of 2003-2004 (2003-2004) £1.00
New City of 2004-2005 (2004-2005) £1.00
New City of 2005-2006 (2005-2006) £1.00
New City of 2006-2007 (2006-2007) £1.00
New City of 2007-2008 (2007-2008) £1.00
New City of 2008-2009 (2008-2009) £1.00
New City of 2009-2010 (2009-2010) £1.00
New City of 2010-2011 (2010-2011) £1.00
New City of 2011-2012 (2011-2012) £1.00
New City of 2012-2013 (2012-2013) £1.00
New City of 2013-2014 (2013-2014) £1.00
New City of 2014-2015 (2014-2015) £1.00
New City of 2015-2016 (2015-2016) £1.00
New City of 2016-2017 (2016-2017) £1.00
New City of 2017-2018 (2017-2018) £1.00
New City of 2018-2019 (2018-2019) £1.00
New City of 2019-2020 (2019-2020) £1.00
New City of 2020-2021 (2020-2021) £1.00
New City of 2021-2022 (2021-2022) £1.00
New City of 2022-2023 (2022-2023) £1.00
New City of 2023-2024 (2023-2024) £1.00
New City of 2024-2025 (2024-2025) £1.00
New City of 2025-2026 (2025-2026) £1.00
New City of 2026-2027 (2026-2027) £1.00
New City of 2027-2028 (2027-2028) £1.00
New City of 2028-2029 (2028-2029) £1.00
New City of 2029-2030 (2029-2030) £1.00
New City of 2030-2031 (2030-2031) £1.00
New City of 2031-2032 (2031-2032) £1.00
New City of 2032-2033 (2032-2033) £1.00
New City of 2033-2034 (2033-2034) £1.00
New City of 2034-2035 (2034-2035) £1.00
New City of 2035-2036 (2035-2036) £1.00
New City of 2036-2037 (2036-2037) £1.00
New City of 2037-2038 (2037-2038) £1.00
New City of 2038-2039 (2038-2039) £1.00
New City of 2039-2040 (2039-2040) £1.00
New City of 2040-2041 (2040-2041) £1.00
New City of 2041-2042 (2041-2042) £1.00
New City of 2042-2043 (2042-2043) £1.00
New City of 2043-2044 (2043-2044) £1.00
New City of 2044-2045 (2044-2045) £1.00
New City of 2045-2046 (2045-2046) £1.00
New City of 2046-2047 (2046-2047) £1.00
New City of 2047-2048 (2047-2048) £1.00
New City of 2048-2049 (2048-2049) £1.00
New City of 2049-2050 (2049-2050) £1.00
New City of 2050-2051 (2050-2051) £1.00
New City of 2051-2052 (2051-2052) £1.00
New City of 2052-2053 (2052-2053) £1.00
New City of 2053-2054 (2053-2054) £1.00
New City of 2054-2055 (2054-2055) £1.00
New City of 2055-2056 (2055-2056) £1.00
New City of 2056-2057 (2056-2057) £1.00
New City of 2057-2058 (2057-2058) £1.00
New City of 2058-2059 (2058-2059) £1.00
New City of 2059-2060 (2059-2060) £1.00
New City of 2060-2061 (2060-2061) £1.00
New City of 2061-2062 (2061-2062) £1.00
New City of 2062-2063 (2062-2063) £1.00
New City of 2063-2064 (2063-2064) £1.00
New City of 2064-2065 (2064-2065) £1.00
New City of 2065-2066 (2065-2066) £1.00
New City of 2066-2067 (2066-2067) £1.00
New City of 2067-2068 (2067-2068) £1.00
New City of 2068-2069 (2068-2069) £1.00
New City of 2069-2070 (2069-2070) £1.00
New City of 2070-2071 (2070-2071) £1.00
New City of 2071-2072 (2071-2072) £1.00
New City of 2072-2073 (2072-2073) £1.00
New City of 2073-2074 (2073-2074) £1.00
New City of 2074-2075 (2074-2075) £1.00
New City of 2075-2076 (2075-2076) £1.00
New City of 2076-2077 (2076-2077) £1.00
New City of 2077-2078 (2077-2078) £1.00
New City of 2078-2079 (2078-2079) £1.00
New City of 2079-2080 (2079-2080) £1.00
New City of 2080-2081 (2080-2081) £1.00
New City of 2081-2082 (2081-2082) £1.00
New City of 2082-2083 (2082-2083) £1.00
New City of 2083-2084 (2083-2084) £1.00
New City of 2084-2085 (2084-2085) £1.00
New City of 2085-2086 (2085-2086) £1.00
New City of 2086-2087 (2086-2087) £1.00
New City of 2087-2088 (2087-2088) £1.00
New City of 2088-2089 (2088-2089) £1.00
New City of 2089-2090 (2089-2090) £1.00
New City of 2090-2091 (2090-2091) £1.00
New City of 2091-2092 (2091-2092) £1.00
New City of 2092-2093 (2092-2093) £1.00
New City of 2093-2094 (2093-2094) £1.00
New City of 2094-2095 (2094-2095) £1.00
New City of 2095-2096 (2095-2096) £1.00
New City of 2096-2097 (2096-2097) £1.00
New City of 2097-2098 (2097-2098) £1.00
New City of 2098-2099 (2098-2099) £1.00
New City of 2099-2100 (2099-2100) £1.00
New City of 2100-2101 (2100-2101) £1.00
New City of 2101-2102 (2101-2102) £1.00
New City of 2102-2103 (2102-2103) £1.00
New City of 2103-2104 (2103-2104) £1.00
New City of 2104-2105 (2104-2105) £1.00
New City of 2105-2106 (2105-2106) £1.00
New City of 2106-2107 (2106-2107) £1.00
New City of 2107-2108 (2107-2108) £1.00
New City of 2108-2109 (2108-2109) £1.00
New City of 2109-2110 (2109-2110) £1.00
New City of 2110-2111 (2110-2111) £1.00
New City of 2111-2112 (2111-2112) £1.00
New City of 2112-2113 (2112-2113) £1.00
New City of 2113-2114 (2113-2114) £1.00
New City of 2114-2115 (2114-2115) £1.00
New City of 2115-2116 (2115-2116) £1.00
New City of 2116-2117 (2116-2117) £1.00
New City of 2117-2118 (2117-2118) £1.00
New City of 2118-2119 (2118-2119) £1.00
New City of 2119-2120 (2119-2120) £1.00
New City of 2120-2121 (2120-2121) £1.00
New City of 2121-2122 (2121-2122) £1.00
New City of 2122-2123 (2122-2123) £1.00
New City of 2123-2124 (2123-2124) £1.00
New City of 2124-2125 (2124-2125) £1.00
New City of 2125-2126 (2125-2126) £1.00
New City of 2126-2127 (2126-2127) £1.00
New City of 2127-2128 (2127-2128) £1.00
New City of 2128-2129 (2128-2129) £1.00
New City of 2129-2130 (2129-2130) £1.00
New City of 2130-2131 (2130-2131) £1.00
New City of 2131-2132 (2131-2132) £1.00
New City of 2132-2133 (2132-2133) £1.00
New City of 2133-2134 (2133-2134) £1.00
New City of 2134-2135 (2134-2135) £1.00
New City of 2135-2136 (2135-2136) £1.00
New City of 2136-2137 (2136-2137) £1.00
New City of 2137-2138 (2137-2138) £1.00
New City of 2138-2139 (2138-2139) £1.00
New City of 2139-2140 (2139-2140) £1.00
New City of 2140-2141 (2140-2141) £1.00
New City of 2141-2142 (2141-2142) £1.00
New City of 2142-2143 (2142-2143) £1.00
New City of 2143-2144 (2143-2144) £1.00
New City of 2144-2145 (2144-2145) £1.00
New City of 2145-2146 (2145-2146) £1.00
New City of 2146-2147 (2146-2147) £1.00
New City of 2147-2148 (2147-2148) £1.00
New City of 2148-2149 (2148-2149) £1.00
New City of 2149-2150 (2149-2150) £1.00
New City of 2150-2151 (2150-2151) £1.00
New City of 2151-2152 (2151-2152) £1.00
New City of 2152-2153 (2152-2153) £1.00
New City of 2153-2154 (2153-2154) £1.00
New City of 2154-2155 (2154-2155) £1.00
New City of 2155-2156 (2155-2156) £1.00
New City of 2156-2157 (2156-2157) £1.00
New City of 2157-2158 (2157-2158) £1.00
New City of 2158-2159 (2158-2159) £1.00
New City of 2159-2160 (2159-2160) £1.00
New City of 2160-2161 (2160-2161) £1.00
New City of 2161-2162 (2161-2162) £1.00
New City of 2162-2163 (2162-2163) £1.00
New City of 2163-2164 (2163-2164) £1.00
New City of 2164-2165 (2164-2165) £1.00
New City of 2165-2166 (2165-2166) £1.00
New City of 2166-2167 (2166-2167) £1.00
New City of 2167-2168 (2167-2168) £1.00
New City of 2168-2169 (2168-2169) £1.00
New City of 2169-2170 (2169-2170) £1.00
New City of 2170-2171 (2170-2171) £1.00
New City of 2171-2172 (2171-2172) £1.00
New City of 2172-2173 (2172-2173) £1.00
New City of 2173-2174 (2173-2174) £1.00
New City of 2174-2175 (2174-2175) £1.00
New City of 2175-2176 (2175-2176) £1.00
New City of 2176-2177 (2176-2177) £1.00
New City of 2177-2178 (2177-2178) £1.00
New City of 2178-2179 (2178-2179) £1.00
New City of 2179-2180 (2179-2180) £1.00
New City of 2180-2181 (2180-2181) £1.00
New City of 2181-2182 (2181-2182) £1.00
New City of 2182-2183 (2182-2183) £1.00
New City of 2183-2184 (2183-2184) £1.00
New City of 2184-2185 (2184-2185) £1.00
New City of 2185-2186 (2185-2186) £1.00
New City of 2186-2187 (2186-2187) £1.00
New City of 2187-2188 (2187-2188) £1.00
New City of 2188-2189 (2188-2189) £1.00
New City of 2189-2190 (2189-2190) £1.00
New City of 2190-2191 (2190-2191) £1.00
New City of 2191-2192 (2191-2192) £1.00
New City of 2192-2193 (2192-2193) £1.00
New City of 2193-2194 (2193-2194) £1.00
New City of 2194-2195 (2194-2195) £1.00
New City of 2195-2196 (2195-2196) £1.00
New City of 2196-2197 (2196-2197) £1.00
New City of 2197-2198 (2197-2198) £1.00
New City of 2198-2199 (2198-2199) £1.00
New City of 2199-2200 (2199-2200) £1.00
New City of 2200-2201 (2200-2201) £1.00
New City of 2201-2202 (2201-2202) £1.00
New City of 2202-2203 (2202-2203) £1.00
New City of 2203-2204 (2203-2204) £1.00
New City of 2204-2205 (2204-2205) £1.00
New City of 2205-2206 (2205-2206) £1.00
New City of 2206-2207 (2206-2207) £1.00
New City of 2207-2208 (2207-2208) £1.00
New City of 2208-2209 (2208-2209) £1.00
New City of 2209-2210 (2209-2210) £1.00
New City of 2210-2211 (2210-2211) £1.00
New City of 2211-2212 (2211-2212) £1.00
New City of 2212-2213 (2212-2213) £1.00
New City of 2213-2214 (2213-2214) £1.00
New City of 2214-2215 (2214-2215) £1.00
New City of 2215-2216 (2215-2216) £1.00
New City of 2216-2217 (2216-2217) £1.00
New City of 2217-2218 (2217-2218) £1.00
New City of 2218-2219 (2218-2219) £1.00
New City of 2219-2220 (2219-2220) £1.00
New City of 2220-2221 (2220-2221) £1.00
New City of 2221-2222 (2221-2222) £1.00
New City of 2222-2223 (2222-2223) £1.00
New City of 2223-2224 (2223-2224) £1.00
New City of 2224-2225 (2224-2225) £1.00
New City of 2225-2226 (2225-2226) £1.00
New City of 2226-2227 (2226-2227) £1.00
New City of 2227-2228 (2227-2228) £1.00
New City of 2228-2229 (2228-2229) £1.00
New City of 2229-2230 (2229-2230) £1.00
New City of 2230-2231 (2230-2231) £1.00
New City of 2231-2232 (2231-2232) £1.00
New City of 2232-2233 (2232-2233) £1.00
New City of 2233-2234 (2233-2234) £1.00
New City of 2234-2235 (2234-2235) £1.00
New City of 2235-2236 (2235-2236) £1.00
New City of 2236-2237 (2236-2237) £1.00
New City of 2237-2238 (2237-2238) £1.00
New City of 2238-2239 (2238-2239) £1.00
New City of 2239-2240 (2239-2240) £1.00
New City of 2240-2241 (2240-2241) £1.00
New City of 2241-2242 (2241-2242) £1.00
New City of 2242-2243 (2242-2243) £1.00
New City of 2243-2244 (2243-2244) £1.00
New City of 2244-2245 (2244-2245) £1.00
New City of 2245-2246 (2245-2246) £1.00
New City of 2246-2247 (2246-2247) £1.00
New City of 2247-2248 (2247-2248) £1.00
New City of 2248-2249 (2248-2249) £1.00
New City of 2249-2250 (2249-2250) £1.00
New City of 2250-2251 (2250-2251) £1.00
New City of 2251-2252 (2251-2252) £1.00
New City of 2252-2253 (2252-2253) £1.00
New City of 2253-2254 (2253-2254) £1.00
New City of 2254-2255 (2254-2255) £1.00
New City of 2255-2256 (2255-2256) £1.00
New City of 2256-2257 (2256-2257) £1.00
New City of 2257-2258 (2257-2258) £1.00
New City of 2258-2259 (2258-2259) £1.00
New City of 2259-2260 (2259-2260) £1.00
New City of 2260-2261 (2260-2261) £1.00
New City of 2261-2262 (2261-2262) £1.00
New City of 2262-2263 (2262-2263) £1.00
New City of 2263-2264 (2263-2264) £1.00
New City of 2264-2265 (2264-2265) £1.00
New City of 2265-2266 (2265-2266) £1.00
New City of 2266-2267 (2266-2267) £1.00
New City of 2267-2268 (2267-2268) £1.00
New City of 2268-2269 (2268-2269) £1.00
New City of 2269-2270 (2269-2270) £1.00
New City of 2270-2271 (2270-2271) £1.00
New City of 2271-2272 (2271-2272) £1.00
New City of 2272-2273 (2272-2273) £1.00
New City of 2273-2274 (2273-2274) £1.00
New City of 2274-2275 (2274-2275) £1.00
New City of 2275-2276 (2275-2276) £1.00
New City of 2276-2277 (2276-2277) £1.00
New City of 2277-2278 (2277-2278) £1.00
New City of 2278-2279 (2278-2279) £1.00
New City of 2279-2280 (2279-2280) £1.00
New City of 2280-2281 (2280-2281) £1.00
New City of 2281-2282 (2281-2282) £1.00
New City of 2282-2283 (2282-2283) £1.00
New City of 2283-2284 (2283-2284) £1.00
New City of 2284-2285 (2284-2285) £1.00
New City of 2285-2286 (2285-2286) £1.00
New City of 2286-2287 (2286-2287) £1.00
New City of 2287-2288 (2287-2288) £1.00
New City of 2288-2289 (2288-2289) £1.00
New City of 2289-2290 (2289-2290) £1.00
New City of 2290-2291 (2290-2291) £1.00
New City of 2291-2292 (2291-2292) £1.00
New City of 2292-2293 (2292-2293) £1.00
New City of 2293-2294 (2293-2294) £1.00
New City of 2294-2295 (2294-2295) £1.00
New City of 2295-2296 (2295-2296) £1.00
New City of 2296-2297 (2296-2297) £1.00
New City of 2297-2298 (2297-2298) £1.00
New City of 2298-2299 (2298-2299) £1.00
New City of 2299-2300 (2299-2300) £1.00
New City of 2300-2301 (2300-2301) £1.00
New City of 2301-2302 (2301-2302) £1.00
New City of 2302-2303 (2302-2303) £1.00
New City of 2303-2304 (2303-2304) £1.00
New City of 2304-2305 (2304-2305) £1.00
New City of 2305-2306 (2305-2306) £1.00
New City of 2306-2307 (2306-2307) £1.00
New City of 2307-2308 (2307-2308) £1.00
New City of 2308-2309 (2308-2309) £1.00
New City of 2309-2310 (2309-2310) £1.00
New City of 2310-2311 (2310-2311) £1.00
New City of 2311-2312 (2311-2312) £1.00
New City of 2312-2313 (2312-2313) £1.00
New City of 2313-2314 (2313-2314) £1.00
New City of 2314-2315 (2314-2315) £1.00
New City of 2315-2316 (2315-2316) £1.00
New City of 2316-2317 (2316-2317) £1.00
New City of 2317-2318 (2317-2318) £1.00
New City of 2318-2319 (2318-2319) £1.00
New City of 2319-2320 (2319-2320) £1.00
New City of 2320-2321 (2320-2321) £1.00
New City of 2321-2322 (2321-2322) £1.00
New City of 2322-2323 (2322-2323) £1.00
New City of 2323-2324 (2323-2324) £1.00
New City of 2324-2325 (2324-2325) £1.00
New City of 2325-2326 (2325-2326) £1.00
New City of 2326-2327 (2326-2327) £1.00
New City of 2327-2328 (2327-2328) £1.00
New City of 2328-2329 (2328-2329) £1.00
New City of 2329-2330 (2329-2330) £1.00
New City of 2330-2331 (2330-2331) £1.00
New City of 2331-2332 (2331-2332) £1.00
New City of 2332-2333 (2332-2333) £1.00
New City of 2333-2334 (2333-2334) £1.00
New City of 2334-2335 (2334-2335) £1.00
New City of 2335-2336 (2335-2336) £1.00
New City of 2336-2337 (2336-2337) £1.00

